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KILLER MOVIES



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Flames Of
Protest

Michael Douglas
And Sharon Stone
In *Basic Instinct*





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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE MARCH 30, 1992 VOL. 105 NO. 13

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COVER

KILLER MOVIES

Basic Instinct, a high-voltage thriller starring Sharon Stone and Michael Douglas, is the latest and most incendiary of a new breed of movies that tap popular fascination with sexual violence. But Hollywood's censoring of the psychopath has alarmed many critics, and Basic Instinct is sparking demonstrations by feminists and gay rights activists across the continent. — 48

WORLD

SOUTH AFRICA'S NEW BEGINNING

South African whites overwhelmingly endorsed President F. W. de Klerk's reform process aimed at ending more than four decades of apartheid. Now, amid continuing threats of violence from extremists, the hard negotiations for power sharing with the country's black majority begin in earnest. — 32

ROYALTY

A RIGHT ROYAL SPAT

The 50-year union of Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, and Sarah, his rebellious duchess, fell apart last week amid bitter recriminations at Buckingham Palace. Some royal-watchers said that the couple's messy breakup would force a reevaluation of marriage in the House of Windsor. — 46





Hearts Of Darkness

Perhaps more than ever, the North American imagination is being stalked by human monsters. There will be abundant evidence of that culture of grotesquery at this year's Academy Awards presentation on March 30. The contenders for best picture feature assassination, rape, cannibalism and murder. The best-actor nominees include Anthony Hopkins (*Silence of the Lambs*), whose character's hunger for human flesh is so voracious that he needs to be restrained by a special mask, and Robert De Niro (*Cape Fear*), whose tattooed villain performs unspeakable horrors. In Canada, recent highly rated TV shows have included stories based on the brutal murder of a longtime cabinet minister's former wife, the sex slaying of a Manitoba Indian woman and the bloody trail of a Chicago serial killer.

Hollywood's latest excursion into the heart of darkness is *Basic Instinct*, starring Michael Douglas and Sharon Stone, the story of a detective who is seduced by a bisexual serial-killer suspect. The movie has aroused protests from gay rights groups and feminists who charge that it is homophobic and misogynist. And its graphic sexual scenes have alienated many people who claim that Hollywood has lost its sense of decency.

What is behind the trend? One possibility is that, as an age of acute anxiety about sexual relationships, people are seeking out forbidden thrills in the safety of a movie theatre or a TV screen. And as crimes of violence escalate in the real world, filmmakers—and moviegoers—apparently have resorted to increasingly heavy doses of shock treatment to attract audiences seeking catharsis. While the moral debate rages, Hollywood will, as usual, keep its eyes trained on the bottom line. As long as sexualised adult thrillers make money, the movie industry will continue to make them. At next week's Oscars, Hollywood will once again indulge its glorifying urge of self-congratulation. But this time, instead of thanking Galileo as many attendees might be more appropriate for the women to express their gratitude to the devil.

Kevin Wajsb



Screen writers and editors Victor Dayer (left), Susan D. Johnson and Patricia Harty, stars of shock treatment

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LETTERS

Truth, or dare?

To be blunt, I am growing tired of hearing how "the rest of Canada" will dry up and blow away if Quebec separates ("Canada with out Quebec," *Canada*, March 2). I find it hard to believe that this country is as dependent as a province that prides itself on its distinctive seas. I do not think of the other nine provinces as just a threat for the "French fact" in Canada. The downside scenario of Quebec separation is being put forward by political interests that stand to lose their power when the days of compromising with Quebec come to an end. It is just another attempt to tempt English Canadians into making further concessions.

Mike Novak
Burlington, Ont.

Canadians seem to be rushing to accommodate what they believe to be the Quebec collective instead of listening to the wisdom of the silenced majority—those who have little opportunity to voice their opinions except through a referendum. Before Ottawa proceeds with constitutional changes, Quebec should be permitted to have its referendum so that Canadians can better assess how to deal with the situation. It is preposterous for Canada to be forced to act within a time frame set up by Quebec politicians. Let us not be rushed into changing our Constitution and thus finding ourselves in a situation we may regret for years. It is time the tide stopped wagging the dog.

J.J. Stewart
Burlington, Que.

In "Canada without Quebec," you write that for Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, a Quebecer, "the prospect of leading a country of only English-speaking provinces is clearly a political nightmare." Do you not realize that he would no longer be eligible to take part in Canadian politics if Quebec separates? That alone is a strong plea for Canada to let Quebec go.

Anne Melnyk
Lamont, Alta.

Et tu, U.S.A.?

It was with great satisfaction that I read Barbara Ansel's column on the ends of socialism, "The communist threat in Ontario's north" (Feb. 24). We in the United States are well aware of this—in your home, we are currently in a serious recession, with high unemployment, low productivity, an adverse trade balance and a debt that will take six generations to pay off, if ever. All this is due to 11 years of education by those who consid-



Mulroney giving a speech in Toronto in 1981: downplay and wagging dogs

ers Ronald Reagan and George Bush. How lucky you are in Canada to be enjoying the level of prosperity and employment that you have due to the wise leadership of that staunch conservative, Brian Mulroney.

Frank Ross
San Carlos, Calif.

Barbara Ansel's "The communist threat in Ontario's north" was surely the last straw for this longtime reader. Ansel and her neo-conservative, Brian Francis, arguably ratcheted up the rabid stakes in their contest to determine who can most creatively hide away money about the Ontario government. For their own cynical, self-serving motives, they have done much to undermine confidence in Ontario from the government ever could. I long ago subscribed to *Maclean's* because it was a useful Canadian newspaper with some interesting commentaries reflecting the diversity of Canadian thought. Now that it has been tainted as a piece of disinformation, right-wing yellow journalism, count me out.

Gerald L. Caplan
Toronto

The politics of beauty

I was disappointed to read yet another example of male-bashing in "Beauty and the beast" (*Cover*, March 8) implicit in your presentation of the story was the opinion that all men are obsessed with large breasts and, therefore, all men are responsible for a woman's decision to have cosmetic breast surgery. One only has to look at the number of men having hair transplants to discover that the desire to look young and attractive is not an exclusively female phenomenon.

Brian O'Connor
Bromfield, Que.

The carbon issue of breast implants reverts the control that patriarchal ideology will maintain over our society. Patriarchal society needs to stop trying to control "women" unless one universally acceptable package. Women are the creators and nurturers of the world and, as such, deserve more respect.

Paula Reinhardt
Kitchener, Ont.

Money down the line

Congratulations on dedicating such a substantial part of your March 8 issue to pensions! ("Are Pensions Safe?" Special Report). I am disturbed, however, that your article may have caused some anxiety among readers and I want to reassure them that the Canada Pension Plan is soundly insured. There is a 25-year schedule of contribution rates as well as a provision for a federal-provincial reserve of the schedule every five years to ensure that appropriate rates are set. The combined employer-employee rate is scheduled to rise to 10.1 per cent in 2016; the employee portion would be 5.65 per cent. This is well below the combined rates in many European countries today: France's is 15.9 per cent and Germany's is 18.7 per cent. You quote one salary when you referred to the CFP as "upside-down welfare." True, contributors who retired in the early years of the plan received a significant subsidy as a result of the decision to equalize plans as pensions. That subsidy is gradually disappearing. The plan is designed so that, on average, Canadians will receive from it what they contribute.

Brenda Davidson,
Minister of Health and Welfare
Ottawa

Letters may be condensed. Please include name, address and daytime telephone number. Write Letters to the Editor, *Maclean's*, 1100 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5G 1B7. Or fax (416) 298-7724.

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OPENING NOTES

Ottawa issues
heavyweight figures,
a new Bluenose
project heaves to, and
an MP looks back
and peers ahead



A FILLIP FOR MUSCOVITES

With a brown leatherette coach, two matching chairs and pashaville devices in glass display cases, Moscow's Salon Inter looks like a cross between a butcher's shop and a doctor's waiting room. But, like any Russian store with raffles for sale, the country's first sex show

other paraphernalia—sweepy priced imports from Hong Kong, Sweden and the United States. "What a wonderful store," said browser Vidar Sævi, 45, a divorced truck driver. "We need more places like this." He may get his wish as that score at least: The owners intend to open eight more shops soon.

quickly drew a crowd. Sex consultant Kostya Galante, an 38-year-old graduate of a high-school medical course, maintained that Solon Internet is "an enormous need" for sex education, adding that "most of the older generation do not know the most basic things about sex." The seminar, launched by a group of doctors, offers consultations on sexual problems. But several of the

*Tactical propaganda, liable to some success in the Communist Circle.

—PETERLIN VERNON
 Alex. Davidson, M.D.

"It will be very useful for people to be aware of the position of the BNC as providers of publication."

—*Constitutional Affairs*
Minister Joe Clark

"I am fully against hanging books,"
 —James Thompson, 1910

Source: *World Bank*. World Development Indicators.

...and the Housewife. *Le Drame*

nothing like printing a

childish behavior to make people even more paranoid."

Mordorcas Richter
Mordorcas: 1. 1895 (18)

FACTS AND THEORIES



AMELIA EARHART

Richard Gillespie, executive director of the International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery based in Wilmington, Del., claims that metal fragments found on the deserted mid-Pacific island of Nikoanaru support his theory that passenger aviator Amelia Earhart, who was missing on July 2, 1937, with navigator Fred Noonan on the last fabled round-the-globe flight, landed her twin-engine Lockheed 10-E airplane there. Her story is online.

Born July 24, 1896, in Antisno, Kan., went to school in Rydal, Pa., as a teenager, served as a military nurse in Tientsin in the First World War.

Studied at New York's Columbia University; took up holiday-flying in California; became a social worker in Boston.

First woman to fly the Atlantic solo from Harbour Grace, Nfld., to Ireland, in May, 1932, first ever to fly solo from Heath to the U.S. mainland—a longer distance—in January 1935.

Theories on her fate range from a fatal crash into the ocean to execution by Japanese troops.

A LEGEND'S TAKEOFF

John Diefenbaker's government ordered all prototypes and plans destroyed when, in 1959, he called off production of the state-of-the-art Avro Arrow jet fighter in suburban Toronto. But legend has it that an Arrow was spirited away to a barn, and the Aerospace Heritage Foundation of Canada promises alert to that possibility. Some say that Arrow plans found their way to Canada and are reflected in Stepanov's Avrojet Co.'s J-38 fighter. That is all glib for Toronto screenwriter/pilot Keith Ross Leduc, who has sought a movie to be made now on the plane. But, without an original Arrow or an offspring, the film's producers are working with the aerospace foundation to build a full-scale model—although, Leduc adds, "I would hop in the car, or a plane, in a second if I heard an Arrow was discovered."

Trademarked agent

Washington lobbyist—shortly before their product was hit by a U.S. import penalty—they turned to a man with ties to the White House. Republican congressman William J. Laker, George Bush's deputy campaign chairman, said Laker's connections may not sit as helpful. But, the Bush aides were left on their own over regulations that the American Chemical Society (ACS) had filed with the U.S. Customs Service, a branch of the federal financial regime. Bank of Credit and Commerce International, then, Republican presidential challenger Patrick Buchanan, attacking Bush for being soft on foreign imports, turned Laker himself into a campaign issue. In a TV commercial entitled "Foreign Agents," Buchanan showed voters that Laker was a registered lobbyist for Japanese auto interests, branding Bush's rejection thereof as "wildly aimed subsidies" of Japanese cars. Laker, however, is an advocate for the Chrysler Powertrain Division.

Venture becalmed

bill, and signals that the recession would soon be over. More Scotland's steel-tourism critics, Trevor Davidson, an accused planner for a national land drive to build Huisson II, a replica of the deteriorating 39-year-old Huisson II. That schooner still replicates the original Lauenburg and sporadic, which foundered on a *Platanus* reef in 1946 at age 25, and is commemorated in the back of the 1960s year, that the only money raised towards an estimated cost of up to 88 million is \$12,000 collected sporadically in Lauenburg, the birthplace of the Huissons. And with the economy hard against, there is little sign in Huisson of resuscitating in the Depression-era plan. "Brother, can you spare a dime?"



Afterthoughts on the future

By majority arrangement to avoid dispute, the schism between the two factions of Louis Riël in a recent Commons resolution—106 years after the *Wife* leader was banished for treason, amid protests in Quebec—was decided without a vote. But after 35 minutes of anti-speeches praising Riël as a founder of Manitoba and effectively a Father of Confederation, New South Terry Patrick Newlin rained on the parade. Objecting to Parliament "renounce Riël just



PASSAGES

DUB: Nonchalant Roger Lamerle, 72, *Le Playeur* (1946), about a dozen family, of course, in a Quebec town. Lamerle was the eldest of 30 children to a working-class couple in Lower Town, which he could see from *Le Playeur* because an enormously tall Radio-Canada and, to a separately family, using the same cast, an O and covered Quebec for Time and and and and and, he was perhaps from from 1972 and he retired



contributed the bird's contemptuous "Hah-hah-hah-HAH-HAH-HAH" laugh.

ACQUITTED: Canadian cyclist Steve Bauer, 32, of assault charge brought by Belgian cyclist Claude Criquielien, by a court in Oudenaarde, Belgium. Criquielien said that Bauer pushed him out the rail at the world championships in nearby Rouse in 1988. Bauer was threatened.

BIO: Prolific screenwriter Helen Deutsch, 85, at her home in New York City. Her scripts include *National Velvet* (1944), and *Elizabeth Taylor, TV Cr. Treasure* (2002), starring Susan Hayward as alcoholic singer-actress Lillian Roth, and *The Unbearable Molly Brown* (1944) with Debbie Reynolds.

Nicotine fits and snack attacks

Conventional wisdom says that smoking cigarettes helps hold down body weight, while quitting or refraining may put on pounds by stimulating the munchies. But a comparison of Statistics Canada surveys in 1985 and 1991 shows that, while the number of regular smokers declined by 551,000 to 5.4 million, or down over nine per

— by 1.1 million to 3.7 million, or more than 40 per cent.



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COLUMN



Capitalism thrives on Moscow's sidewalks

BY DUANE FRANCIS

Will residents of the former Soviet Union pull off the painful transition to a market economy? I think they already are coping just fine. Consider the case of Vladimir the hardware: I interviewed him recently on a chilly February afternoon in Moscow. He was one of thousands of people at a gigantic sidewalk sale which has sprung up in the shadow of the former KGB headquarters. The location is ironic because until January, most transactions conducted on sale government-owned stores were "black marketeering" and illegal. Now, it is done in daylight, and sidewalk sales have sprung up all around the city. Capitalism has come out of the closet and thrives, although under very primitive conditions.

Vladimir is not from Moscow, but had traveled 24 hours by train from his home town of Samara with one new suitcase full of tools but the country's only suitcase factory and he had bought this one for 120 rubles (roughly \$1.20) and hoped to sell it. "It is worth 600 rubles here," he said. "I will be happy to get 400 rubles or so, which will cover my expenses and give me enough to buy beer to go to take home, which is our favorite here."

"This is capitalism, Soviet-style. People are turning themselves into two-legged retail-and-wholesale-distribution operations to circumvent the inaccessibility of the old system, which paid no attention to supply or demand, or customer needs and preferences. Under the old system, hard money or coupons were rationed out among government-owned stores by bureaucrats in Moscow, irrespective of higher demand in one area or another."

Steve Janovic, buying and selling on an individual basis were allowed for the first time, going both to and from sidewalk sales. The open-air markets are also de facto privatization leading toward economic reforms, which have been delayed unduly. Vladimir and others effectively are mobile stores selling blue jeans, shoes, perfume, vodka, records, books or whatever they can get their hands on.

Sales pitches are unique but effective. One fierce-looking Russian with a full-sized husky said, 'Buy dog or I kill.'

Sidewalk sales, although cold and dirty, are growing in number by effectively ousting government-owned stores. That is mostly because store inventories bear little resemblance to demand and advertising is rare. Under the old system, shoppers never knew what was in the stores until they got there. As a result, they now go to sidewalk sales and scan the crowds to try to find what they need and cannot find in their local stores. The vendors in such sales need no licenses. One woman beside Vladimir, for instance, said that she had passed a store the day before and bought 10 bottles of shampoo that she didn't need. Now, she was holding them up to try to sell them.

Of course, this is hardly a pleasant way to do business. It is cold and there is mud and slush everywhere. The sidewalk is crowded and customers must push through sales of sellers. Because of such conditions, Muscovites grumble and criticize economic reforms, because they are so painful. But the outcome of things, changes have been very rapid and will accelerate with privatization. As well, the Soviets have demonstrated that they can compete when they have to become serious and goods provided for the military were as good as any in the free world. That is because the military police

tried complex, in an effort to match the quality of the American defense industry, was the only industry inside the former Soviet empire that had to compete.

I am convinced that there is no reason why those same brains and energies cannot design and make decent hairpins or showerheads or environmental cleaning technologies in competition with the free world. But it won't be easy.

Already, the Soviet people are showing they are capable of adapting. There are many more Russian versions of Vladimir's sidewalk sale. There is Moscow's open-air pet market, which has been in existence for several years because the government never opened pet stores. The market, on several acres near the center of the city, offers everything from bred and leashed to red worms for tropical fish food from vendors who display their items in baskets or makeshift tables set of wood or even cardboard.

The tropical-fish section offers an amazing variety of beautiful pets. Sellers keep their fish in tanks warmed by Russian burners. In the dog or cat sections, men and women line up, the heads of their fathers or poppers displayed from pocket pockets. Sales pitches are unique in the world, but effective. One fierce-looking Russian with a full-sized husky said, "Buy dog or I kill." An American woman took the threat seriously and bought the dog, planning to try to give it away.

Russian capitalists are hoards of new commodities exchanged on dozens of open-air markets throughout the city within the past few months. Around the corner from Vladimir's sidewalk sale is the Moscow Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange, built inside a former post office. Every afternoon, thousands of traders gather and sell commodities offering computers, gold, trucks and a wide variety of other items.

Then market is an essential transitional tool needed for a market economy. Under the old system, the only way Soviet companies could compete in the global or trade was to fill in requisition forms and submit them to the central bureaucracy in the hope that they would get an allotment—eventually. As for old equipment, company officials had no incentive to sell and thus upgrade it because all profits made from the sale of state-supplied material went automatically returned to the bureaucracy. As a result, companies kept inefficient equipment and never really sold surplus equipment. They just stockpiled it or let it sit idle.

While there are markets springing up everywhere selling almost everything, the government has to spend up efforts by privatizing government-owned enterprises as quickly as possible. Meanwhile, people are not waiting and, by the time reforms become law, new-born capitalists like Vladimir may already be transporting suitcases by train to Moscow and selling them by the dozen. The bottom line is that the Soviets are proving that free enterprise is human nature and that it cannot be restrained (if created by edict. It only needs to be nurtured and controlled with enlightened rules.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN LOW

DONALD GETTY'S
LEADERSHIP IS
COMING UNDER
INCREASING
CRITICISM FROM
FELLOW TORIES

A star quarterback with the Edmonton Oilers in the 1950s, the lanky, broad-shouldered Donald Getty was famous for his strong-shouldered stunts and steady nerves. As Getty once explained, "If you want to see a football team come apart fast, you just have to have a quarterback who doesn't know what he is doing." Now, almost seven years after becoming Alberta's 11th premier, Getty has a growing chorus of critics within his own Conservative party. His detractors charge that the leadership skills that the 58-year-old Getty used to demonstrate on the playing field have largely eluded him as premier. As a result, there are naysayers left within the party that the once unbeatable Tories could lose the next provincial election. "Everyone likes Mr. Getty, but the question is, 'Can we win with him?'" says Murray Borthwick, president of the central Alberta Conservative riding association at Three Hills. "People are concerned right across the province."

In fact, Maclean's has learned that some Alberta businessmen who are longtime Tory supporters have privately discussed the possibility of creating a retirement fund to enable the embattled premier to step aside. The idea, at this stage, appears to be hypothetical, and a spokesman for the province says that Getty has no knowledge of it. But the premier's political judgments continue to stir controversy. Many provincial Tories are still snarling over a widely published January speech in which Getty attacked official bilingualism and state-guaranteed multiculturalism. Internal dissent has been further fuelled by Getty's continuing refusal to revoke his appointment last month of Vernon Mike Stevens, 48, as Alberta's solicitor general. Since then, Stevens has been physically abused with published allegations that West physically shoved his former wife—



Getty with wife Margaret after last week's throne speech retirement fund

which he denied last year—seriously assaulted guests and attempted at least two kidnappings before being destroyed by a neighbor's backyard. Last Friday, after receiving silent cheer the allegations for weeks, West said a prepared statement to a handful Alberta legislators: "There have been many stories and allegations about me," said West. "Suffice to

say that some of the stories, but not all, are surrounded to some degree by alcohol." West then proceeded to refuse from using alcohol as long as he is in cabinet.

While none of the allegations resulted in criminal charges against West, they have stirred the disquiet among Tory supporters. Many Tories are weary of the party's

sexual controversies in Calgary as March 27 to 29. "The party is sick," says David King, a former education minister under Getty who was defeated in the 1988 provincial election. King added that he believes Getty should discuss West's resignation. "There is a sense that there is no leadership at the party's core," West, a veterinarian, is well-known in Tory circles as an outspoken, low-order advocate. He gained his reputation, in part, by confronting suspected drug dealers in the bars and on the streets of Vermilion, a farming community of 3,500 located 100 km east of Edmonton. But West's notoriety soared after Getty promoted him on Feb. 24 from recreation and parks minister to solicitor general, a post in which he will oversee police services, the Alberta Liquor Control Board and government efforts to curb drinking and family violence. Within days of that appointment, his former wife, Nancy, told reporters that West had physically abused her during their five-year marriage, which ended in divorce in 1979. But court records show that the divorce was granted on the grounds of West's adultery.

As the allegations about West mounted, Getty slugged off the controversy, saying that he was interested more in West's future performance than his past. Declared Getty, "I think he has the makings of the best solicitor general we have ever had." But those responses did little to appease opposition politicians, representatives of women's groups and other protesters' complaints of Getty's own party, who contend that West is an inappropriate candidate to serve as solicitor general. Said Peter Pappas, president of the Edmonton-Norwood Conservative riding association: "I think he should resign."

Disgruntled Tories say that Getty's handling of the West controversy is only the latest example of why the former quarterback should consider retiring. Alex Rose, president of the Tory constituency association in the central Alberta riding of Lacombe, traces much of the movement to the 1980 provincial election campaign, during which Getty led his party to a slightly reduced majority but lost his own seat in Edmonton. Instead of retiring, as many expected, he accepted the resignation of Tory Mike Brian Dewar and then won a by-election as Dewar's hand-picked successor. Getty later resigned Dewar by appointing him chairman of the Alberta Liquor Control Board, a position that pays between \$70,000 and \$85,000 annually. "The Solicitor General did not go down well with a lot of people," says Rose. "It didn't strike them as fair or proper."

Getty also ran out of money in his own party by supporting the ill-fated Michael Lacombe

when voters had recognized Quebec as a distinct society. His speech in January, in which he insisted that all provisions must be treated as equal in any future constitutional deal, appeared to be mere lip work with public opinion in the province. It was an Angus Reid poll a week after the speech, 36 per cent of the respondents said that they would support the Conservatives, up from 28 per cent in December. But 68 per cent of those polled said that they still disapproved of Getty's performance as leader—a rating that has held virtually constant for over two years.

Party insiders say that the lead-back general Getty suffers—perhaps unfairly—by comparison to his predecessor, Peter Lougheed, a strong-willed workaholic who governed the province for 14 years. "Getty does not work hard and is really not interested in policy," a senior provincial Tory official, who declined to be identified, told Maclean's last week. Added Lacombe's Rose: "Lougheed was the best example of a leader who had a very, very strong political and emotional connection to his party. Getty doesn't have that."

However, Getty loyalists point out that the Tories still enjoy a commanding majority—they hold 50 of the 83 seats in the legislature—and that Getty has not until 1994 to call an election. Deputy premier James Norman, who has served as a cabinet minister under both Lougheed and Getty, says that the party remains the natural choice for voters to re-elect. As for the widespread displeasure with Getty expressed in polls, Norman added, "The key public opinion poll comes when people start voting early. If we had to govern by the polls, we would be soundly beating all over the map."

Several senior party officials acknowledged last week that talk of a backroom deal to ouster Getty's financial inexperience to have policies in making the results in Calgary. "There is a work, not a sell," said one highly placed Tory official, who added that some party members would clearly welcome such an initiative. Getty's communications co-ordinator, Peter Tully, told Maclean's that the premier does not comment on unsubstantiated reports. But another senior Tory says that he doubts the premier would accept such an offer in any case. Added the official: "He is an honorable guy. Besides, political attitudes change and people would never accept this. Still, the mark that the idea is a justifiable order of the day for some members of Getty's Tory team have lost faith in their quarterback's ability to lead them to electoral victory."

BRIAN BEIDMAN with JIMMY HOFFER in
Calgary

National Notes

HUMAN TRAGEDY

A government inquiry has determined that a crew error was responsible for the Oct. 30 Rhodesia to Israel plane crash in the Rijk's Air that resulted in the deaths of five people. Thirteen others were injured in subsequent injuries two days after the C-130 went down. But Steve Simon, a spokesman for the Rijk's Air, said that pilot Capt. John Couch had spoken to her before he died of hypoxemia, eight hours before the crash. "I thought we were over water," Heller recalled Couch told her.

POLICE INQUIRY

One week after the Alberta Court of Appeal ordered a new trial for Wilson Norman, convicted in 1983 of murdering Martin Ross, Douglas, the RCMP resumed an internal inquiry into the handling of the case. One officer, Sgt. Larry Zaskas, has been charged with perjury relating to his testimony during the appeal court's review of the case last year. The court decided to refer a new trial for Norman, 47, a Cree, because of the possibility that there may have been a miscarriage of justice.

TESTING THE LAW

In one of the first court decisions under new Criminal Code minority provisions, a woman who killed her long-term partner because she thought he was possessed by the spirit of Adolf Hitler was placed in the custody of her parents. Justice Kenneth Hanson of the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench and that Ontario Justice Tremblay-Lamer, found that early in the trial, the woman, who was 34 years old, had made great strides in her recovery. The new legislation, enacted Feb. 4, followed a Supreme Court of Canada ruling last May that the existing insanity law, under which people could be hospitalized indefinitely, was unconstitutional.

SOUL-SEARCHING

Solicitor General Douglas Lewis said that he has asked the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to review its website to help it reveal its political biases. "I think that's a good idea," Lewis said. "The laws have been revised, and I think it makes sense for us to be re-examining our priorities."

FINDING UPHILL

Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity, and from his job in Urry, Ont., for refusing to leave a homosexual relationship, will not return to his pulpit. After a special bishop's court, the church, which accepts homosexual priests if they remain celibate, decided to uphold the firing.



One gone hunter: the James Bay controversy has fuelled mistrust and suspicion

The great divide

Quebec reacts bitterly to native activists

The message was blunt and left no room for diplomatic evasion: it was delivered by Richard Le Hir, vice-president and general manager of the 2,500-member Quebec Manufacturers' Association. And it was aimed at the native inhabitants of the province's north—no particular, the 30,000 members of the Caisse Autonome. Appearing last week in Montreal before a federal-provincial environmental review of the proposed Great Whale hydroelectricity project, Le Hir bitterly assailed the Cree, complaining that society is an antiquated anachronism. In Le Hir's view, the Cree and other native groups who oppose the \$13-billion development are engaged in "obscure blackmail" that has "taken the government and the people of Quebec hostage."

Le Hir's outburst struck underneath the frustration among Quebec's business leaders over the fading prospects of the Great Whale megaproject, which they once hailed as the rock that would ignite the province's economic recovery. But it also reflected a widening atmosphere of mistrust and suspicion that is widening relations between Quebec's natives and the province's French-speaking majority. "The relationship is bad," acknowledged Daniel Clé, an adviser on native issues to opposition Parti Québécois leader Jacques Parizeau. "It is as bad as I have ever seen it." It is an apparent recognition of that fact, Assembly of First

Nations (AFN) Chief Ovide Mercredi last week publicly urged Premier Robert Bourassa to take part in the current round of federal-provincial constitutional negotiations, describing the premier as the only politician who "can save the country." A day later, however, Bourassa voted in favor of a PQ motion to confine Quebec's boycott of the talks.

The reasons for the strained relations are varied. One factor is the continuing international campaign by Quebec natives to tarnish the image of the entire James Bay power project. Another is the lingering resentment among many Quebecers over the 1990 Mohawk standoff at Oka, Que. But the major irritant is the fact that native leaders, including Mercredi, have disputed Quebec's claim to be uniquely qualified to constitutional negotiation as a distinct society. Mercredi has repeatedly vowed to resist any recognition of collective rights for Quebec that does not acknowledge the same rights for native people. "Some people may be misled that we don't see it equal," the now leader told *Maclean's* recently. "But we don't apologize for asserting our rights."

Mercredi's intransigence infuriated many Quebecers. At the same time, Parizeau has denied threats by some native groups to secede from an independent Quebec. "Do you really think they would do that?" he asked during a recent dinner with editorial staff of the

Quebec City daily *Le Soleil*. "Do you realize how those people live?" Asked what he would do if natives tried to carry out their threats, he scoffed. "We'd smile. We'd laugh a bit." Later, the PQ leader imposed a temporary ban on all official dialogue between party members and native groups. "We need to allow tensions and passions to subside," Parizeau said.

Some Quebec nationalists suggest that Mercredi is acting in a deliberately provocative manner for ethnic motives. "Ovide is a politician—and a hell of a good one," said Clé. "I think that he believes the sovereigntists cannot win a referendum and that it is best to be on the winning side—the federalist side. That's why he has returned to secure tactics."

In fact, federal officials say privately that they were appalled by Mercredi's remarks. Constitutional Affairs Minister Joe Clark spent an hour criticizing the AFN leader through a speaking bureau the two men in the summer's village last month. According to an official who saw them, Clark told Mercredi that he was acting "like a Indiana motorcycle, spurring an ice." Clark added that, without Quebec's support, there would be no constitutional reform for natives.

Mercredi appeared last week to be trying to mend fences. Speaking at a Canadian Club luncheon in Ottawa, he declared that he was prepared to be more flexible if Quebec's leaders would guarantee native rights. He added: "Without Bourassa, there can be no real advancement on the inherent right to self-government, on the transition we have with Canada and the rest of our constitutional role."

Although Bourassa did not respond directly to the native leader's overture, he adopted a conciliatory tone towards the rest of Canada in a speech at the opening of a new session of the National Assembly in Quebec City. The premier praised Canada as a "privileged country in terms of peace, liberty and the standard of living"—but he warned that national unity can be preserved only if Quebec's demands are met. And in Ottawa, Quebec government officials stayed away from the first meeting in which native leaders joined federal and provincial officials in the arduous task of trying to hammer out a constitutional reform package by the end of May.

For his part, Quebec Indian Affairs Minister Christian Durois welcomed the "new tone of flexibility" as Mercredi's remarks had declined further consensus. In view of the strained relations between Quebec and native groups, that, at least, was one positive step.

BARRY CAME is Montreal writer
Z. KATZ PILTON is Ottawa

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Letter from St. Andrews A dowager's legacy

In the New Brunswick seaside resort of St. Andrews, it is known by some simply as "the BE". For the town's residents—the rich and famous who flock there each summer, as well as year-round inhabitants—the growing elevation has always been more than a source of local fun. On its crest stands the green-and-white, turret-topped Algonquin Hotel. Nearby, an elevated street leads down to a one-foot-high grey wooden fence. Hidden behind the gates is Dreyfuss, the sprawling home once owned by Sir James Dunn, a wealthy and eccentric industrialist. Since his death in 1966, Dreyfuss's owner has been Dunn's widow, Marion, who in 1963 married Maxwell Adams, the press magnate who became Lord Beaverbrook and died in 1964.

Although she has failed to spend only a few winter months at Dreyfuss, Lady Beaverbrook's presence, like the Hill itself, seems to grow the town. Since Dunn's death, she has levied roughly \$500,000 a year on the town to compensate for first husband Sir James Dunn's estate, a recreation complex. She also donated funds for a health centre, annual grant to the local high school and a fire hall. She helps to finance the local conservatory college and provides university scholarships to St. Andrews students. Not surprisingly, many of the 1,700 residents regarded the reclusive dowager, now 84, as a model of generosity. But others complained that the town's reliance on Lady Beaverbrook smacked of an era when Canada's social and political elite ran St. Andrews like a fiefdom—and locals entered the Algonquin by the back door. Now, after a bitter dispute that erupted last year, residents are working out new civic arrangements—without the help of their benefactor.

Last Aug. 15, the trustees of the Sir James Dunn Foundation, set up by Lady Beaverbrook in the late 1960s, announced that they would no longer provide annual funding to the appreciated entertainment complex—\$200,000 last year alone. In addition, Lady Beaverbrook ordered some officials to recover her late husband's name from the area's facade. Foundation spokesmen say that the decision to cut off donations was made solely on economic grounds. But many residents claim that Lady Beaverbrook is punishing St. Andrews—and that the source of her displeasure is the great Algonquin Hotel.

Only two weeks before the foundation's

announcement, the town council agreed to a rezoning request by the Algonquin, approving the previously owned hotel's plan to construct 54 additional rooms on the hill, only 160 metres from Dreyfuss. Through her lawyers, Lady Beaverbrook argued against the extension. And since the decision, her St. Andrews supporters have lashed out at the council. Declared Nancy Allen, a local real estate agent, "I don't think that these people realize how much the town has benefited from Lady Beaverbrook's presence."

Fathers of Confederation. They were followed in this century by magistrates such as Dunn and C. D. Howe, the political and industrial giant. The town's summer visitors have included Sir Isaac Newton, the physicist, and Sir John A. Macdonald, the first prime minister of Canada.

Then, in 1906, the summer residents enjoyed a comfortable existence—riding, sailing, playing tennis and golf, dining and dancing. But the golf between them and the year-round residents was wide. Behind Margie Dunn, 78, granddaughter of former Canadian Pacific Rail-



Lady Beaverbrook in a detail from Salvador Dali's *Equestrian Fantasy*; reclusive

Others, however, say that there are drawbacks to Lady Beaverbrook's philanthropy. Explains Sheila Simpson, a local shop owner: "We have been like supplicants looking for hand-outs." And, in fact, many residents favor the hotel's existence, hoping that it will attract more visitors—and jobs—in a town largely dependent on tourism. Says Catherine Smith, a nurse who works voluntarily at the resort, "People who are working for something appreciate it far more than if it is handed to them on a silver platter."

Accepting Lady Beaverbrook's charity has always brought back distasteful memories for some older residents. A distinct class system once divided the town. In the 19th-century, socialists from New England and Central Canada began flocking to the area, building against summer homes. The visitors included Sir Leonard Tilley and Sir Charles Tupper, both

may chairman of the Dominion, who spent his summers at the family home on the hill before moving to St. Andrews permanently in 1958. "We lived as a separate world from the rest of town,"

Although Lady Beaverbrook has given no indication that she is abandoning all financial support for the town, her relationship with St. Andrews has lately changed forever. As if to underscore that fact, earlier this month workers removed the Dunn name from the outside of the arena and erected a new sign, designating the building as the W. C. O'Brien Complex—in honor of the arena's first manager. Declared lawyer David Bartlett, the town's acting mayor: "It is the end of an era." And, for many in St. Andrews, the beginning of a more self-reliant one.

JOHN DEMONT is in St. Andrews

A NEW BEGINNING

SOUTH AFRICAN WHITES AGREE TO DISMANTLE RACIAL BARRIERS—NOW THE HARD PART BEGINS

The future at a crossroads, white South Africans had the power to determine its course. The March 27 referendum called by President F. W. de Klerk asked white voters whether they were willing to continue with negotiations aimed at sharing power with the country's black majority. For Keith Coates, a 64-year-old laid survivor from Cape Town, the answer was "No." Lamenting the lightning pace of change under the reformist president, Coates said that he feared that "de Klerk will hand over to the blacks willingly and that will be that." He added, "I predict that within seven years this country will go to the dogs with totalitarianism and all the other disastrous economic policies that have been implemented in other African countries when they achieved independence." But de Klerk's question had the force to divide families. Coates's wife, Cheryl, did not share her husband's apocalyptic view, and said that she voted "Yes" because she was "confident that we have a hopeful and



De Klerk campaigning: 'The real birthday of the new South African nation'

good future." Declared the 66-year-old housewife, "To me, it was as close as all—there was only one thing to do."

The overwhelming majority of South Africa's 3.3 million white voters reflected Rency Coates's confidence in a negotiated settlement. Despite a scare campaign by right-wing Afrikaners who warned of chaos, bloodshed and an unstable takeover by black extremists, 90 per cent of the electorate gave de Klerk the go-ahead to negotiate a new, non-racial constitution. Of the country's 15 electoral districts, only one, in the drought-stricken northern Transvaal populated by Afrikaner farmers, voted against continued reform (page 24). World leaders, including Prime Minister Boris Yeltsin, praised the referendum result and endorsed their willingness to discuss the lifting of economic sanctions. But the emotion of the moment was left more strongly in South African cities like Cape Town, where a jubilant crowd of supporters gathered outside the parliament buildings to celebrate de Klerk, who was celebrating his 56th birthday. The bespectacled, white National Party now appears set to yield its 44-year grip on power, pronounced the dawn of a new era. "Today we have closed the book on apartheid," he told his countrymen. "The message of this referendum is that today is, in a certain sense, the real birthday of the new South African nation."

It was de Klerk himself who signalled the new beginning's true promise when he chose to release Nelson Mandela, after 27 years in prison. That act in motion a sequence of political changes that could see the African National Congress (ANC) leader take part in a non-racial interim government by this summer—and blacks voting for the first time in national elections by as early as next year. But numerous obstacles remain. A violent power struggle among rival black groups shows no signs of abating. And although about two million voters last week effectively donated to give their role as the last white-minority rulers on the African continent, there remain up to one million whites who have sworn never to live under black rule. "De Klerk can't ignore the substantial number of ones," said a Western diplomat who spoke in confidence of anonymity. "They have deeply held views and guns." Many of those who support the Constitu-

tion Party, led by Anthonie Trosman, a former landlubber and now a politician who has carried on a long rivalry with de Klerk. Nicknamed "De Nê" for his stubborn opposition to reform, Trosman acknowledged last week that a government controlled by South Africa's 28 million blacks was now inevitable. But he added that Afrikaners would retain their status for as independent white homeland—a vague concept that would allow whites to govern themselves in a still-undefined area. Although Trosman ruled out violence as a means to that end, at least for now, more extremist groups, such as the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Struggle Movement, threaten a race war to prevent black rule.

But armed with his new mandate from the majority of whites, de Klerk will now step up constitutional negotiations with all of the country's racial groups. That will not be an easy task. Talks aimed at negotiating the transition to majority government began last December through a forum called the Convention for a Democratic South Africa, CODESA. Its participants, 39 political groupings representing white, black, Colored and Indian South Africans, are to create an interim government, draft a constitution and call an election for a new, multi-racial parliament. But Trosman's Conservatives and militant Afrikaners—descendants of the mainly black pioneers known as Boers, who opened the country up to European settlement in the 17th century—have so far boycotted the process. And on the left, the Pan-African Congress and other extremist black groups have also refused to take part.

Meanwhile, de Klerk faces an uphill battle with the ANC, the largest black group at the negotiating table, over his vow to hand "checks and balances" to the new constitution to protect the white minority. De Klerk said that he will agree to a new constitution only if it ensures, among other things, limitation of the powers of a head of state, representation of more than one party in the executive and a free-market economic system. The ANC, which contends that minorities must have certain safeguards, has shown little inclination to accept that the black majority be denied outright power. And Mandela refuses to agree to de Klerk's demand that his movement abolish its military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of

World Notes

BLAST IN ARGENTINA

A bomb planted in a truck destroyed the Israeli Embassy in downtown Buenos Aires last night. A Jewish activist, identified as 344, is a statement issued in Buenos Aires. The pro-Israeli Israeli (Jody Wof) claimed to have orchestrated the attack to avenge Israel's killing of Lebanese leader Sheikh Abbas Mazoun on Feb. 25 in Lebanon.

IRACH CONCESSIONS

Apparently bowing to international pressure, Iraq agreed to scrap its remaining missile equipment and disclose its arms programs to United Nations investigators. Before the decision, President George Bush had warned that the United States was contemplating "all alternatives"—including military options—to force Iraq to comply with UN orders to destroy its weapons capabilities.

COSMIC BUZZ

The first Russian space mission since the collapse of the Soviet Union landed up with the Mir space station. Two members of the three-man crew that left last week will replace cosmonaut Sergei Krikov, who has been visiting Earth since last May, and Alexander Solov, who joined him on the mission. Krikov was originally scheduled to come back in October, but remained aloft during the turmoil that swept his homeland.

STIPPING DOWN

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, 60, announced that he will resign due to poor health. Mordechai, a longtime orthodox socialist, who first led the elected nation from 1977 until 1986, was hospitalized in 1989 on a prolonged stay of 100-day medical treatment and privatization of nationalized businesses.

ISRAELI ARMS DEALING

A U.S. member of U.S. Tech-Defense Inc. left for Jerusalem last week to negotiate the sale of Jewish state arms. U.S. Perpetrator technology to Israel. Jewish Defense Minister Moshe Arens denied claims that his country had improperly transferred U.S. arms to a number of countries.

A DANGEROUS MISSION

On special mission Cyrus Vance travelled to the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, a zone of more than 1,000 deaths in four years of inter-ethnic warfare. The region is administered mainly by Armenians, but is administered by the former Soviet republic of Azerbaijan. Armenian officials said that mission before Vance's arrival, the capital of Stepanakert came under renewed artillery attack.

APARTHEID'S PAINFUL LEGACY

National Party takes power on platform of apartheid

Four race groups required to live in separate areas. Bantu registered as vote

White forced to move from white urban areas to townships



1948 National Party takes power on platform of apartheid

1949 Four race groups required to live in separate areas. Bantu registered as vote

1950 White forced to move from white urban areas to townships

1952/53 1956 1960 1961 1962 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992

1948 National Party takes power on platform of apartheid

1949 Four race groups required to live in separate areas. Bantu registered as vote

1950 White forced to move from white urban areas to townships

1952/53 1956 1960 1961 1962 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992

the National, or that economic sanctions be fully lifted, and no interim government is installed. Sani de Klerk last week: "Some tough negotiations lie ahead."

Counterfactuals aside, rampant political violence in the township theaters to undermine black unity and unravel the tenuous peace process. More than 11,000 blacks have been killed since 1984—nearly 300 of them during the three-week rule-crack campaign alone—and much of the fighting pits ANC supporters against the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party. The ANC, which has links with the South African Communist party, has blamed a shadowy "third force" for provoking violence, saying that elements in the government security forces side with Inkatha because they consider it to be a more palatable political group.

In the aftermath of the March 17 vote, a jubilant Transvaal congressman de Klerk to former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev who, he said, was "near this own reform." He declared Transvaal: "Mr. de Klerk has won his referendum, just like Gorbachev won his. Gorbachev is today out of power and Mr. de Klerk is negotiating his own government out of power."

It was an apt analogy. Like Gorbachev, who rose through the ranks of the Communist hierarchy under such hard-liners as Leonid Brezhnev and Yuri Andropov, de Klerk had strong conservative mentors, including Nationalist leaders B.J. Vorster and P.W. (Piet) Botha.

And nothing in the early, tie-the-line careers of either was hinted at the radical changes that each would later foster in his adopted society. The product of a highly politicized and devoutly religious Afrikaner farming family, de Klerk carefully shied away from taking sides during the internal Nationalist debates over apartheid in the 1970s.

But again like Gorbachev, de Klerk became president at a momentous time. When he succeeded Botha in 1989, the black majority's cries for justice had gained such widespread support that they could no longer be ignored. Faced with spiraling violence in the black

townships and economic collapse under the weight of international sanctions, de Klerk rapidly began dismantling the pillars of apartheid—beginning a process that may soon see the parish union join the world community.

His work nearly done, some South African observers have already begun referring to de Klerk as "post-apartheid's man." That may be so, but that is no slight to a skilled politician who has already changed the course of his nation's history.

ANDREW BILSKY with CHRIS MADRUS in Cape Town

THE POLITICS OF DROUGHT

Once again, Africa is haunted by droughts. Images brought on by drought, birds drop from the sky, buffaloes are chased out to the watering hole, and the normally moist animals are so weak from hunger and thirst that they can run quickly enough to catch them in some rural areas, teachers are saving food scraps for malnourished students. But this year, those scenes are from Zimbabwe, one of the few African countries normally able to feed its people. The deadly grip of famine is reaching beyond the arid Horn of Africa into southern Africa, where meteorologists predict that this year's drought may be the century's worst. Crops have failed even south of Zimbabwe, on the usually lush cattle and corn farms of the Transvaal in northern South Africa.

Coupled with last week's referendum announcement, the impending end of white rule, the drought has created a sense of crisis for whites in the Transvaal. A largely rural region, it is one of the last remaining bastions of the apartheid mentality. The province, Transvaal was the only one of 10 electoral regions where a majority of whites voted against moving the move towards sharing power with blacks. Some observers suggested that many Transvaal Afrikaners, battered by drought to near-bankruptcy, have become fanatical about their prospects. White farmers rashly joke that the blacks will repossess their land anyway, long before a black-led government could take it away.

But the drought also constitutes the desperate conditions affecting South Africa's disadvantaged rural blacks. More than half of the country's 28 million blacks live outside the cities—a potent political force when they acquire voting rights—and many live in poverty on the marginal farmland set aside by Pretoria

for black homelands. Operation Bhequti, a relief organization that feeds 1.4 million South African blacks daily, claims that only eight per cent of the rural blacks are self-sufficient.

The drought means that South Africa, which is normally a grain exporter, will import more than four million tons of grain this year. In Zimbabwe, where food stocks are expected to run out in April, black malnutrition is already rampant. The region's poor road network hampers effective distribution, and there are widespread fears that the crisis will ignite violence. Zimbabwean businessman John Cross warned that the government "will have to put armed men on the trucks delivering grain to our people." The drought was a reminder that southern Africa's challenges go far beyond politics.

BRUCE WALLACE with HEATHER SELL in Harare



An Inkatha festival disrupted by violence: a power struggle that shows no sign of abating

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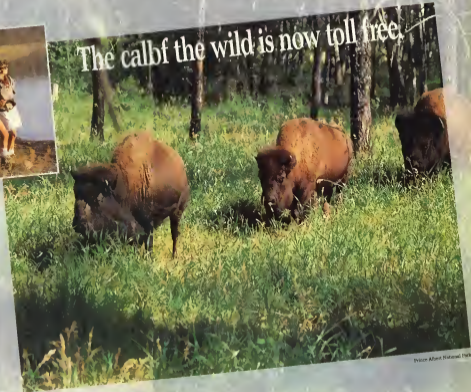
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PROFILE VLADIMIR ZHIRINOVSKY

Yeltsin's challenge

A hard-liner seeks to turn back the clock

In a shabby corner Moscow office where the dust forced him to wear a navy-blue mask over his nose, Vladimir Volodya Zhirinovskiy interrupted a colleague about Russia's future refusal to look for his latest news. With a slight smile of approval, he quickly focused on information to his several front-page reports on a failed March 17 attempt by Communist hardliners to reconquer the now-defunct Soviet legislature. The former Soviet deputies were unable to muster a quorum of half the 2,250-member parliament. And because Russian lawmakers had banned them from entering in the Kremlin, the 180 former legislators who did attend the second extraordinary session met in better circumstances: the declared auditors of a state duty firm, 55 km south of Moscow, where the power had been cut. Among those who did show was Zhirinovskiy, although not a Communist. Indeed, he is not a politician, who favors private enterprise and whose clapping of Russian nationalism has brought him recognition across the old world. Said the 45-year-old lawyer in an interview with *World* last week, "The congress represents united me to be a general because we share the same goal: to restore Russia's greatness."

A fierce attention surrounded the Communist hard-liner's attempt to turn back the clock to the good, but beleaguered, days of the last few years to the future. And television cameras spotted Zhirinovskiy engaged in a vigorous argument at roadside with traffic policemen as he tried desperately to find out which way the deputies' convoy had gone. But the beleaguered politician at least managed to get himself inside. Reports in the Russian media pronouncedly featured his heated charges that the authorities had harassed deputies seeking to attend the session. And getting arrested is a big part of the continuing battle that Zhirinovskiy is waging to revive the Russian presidency from Boris Yeltsin and return the country to its imperial greatness.

To be sure, the hard-liner's assertion that the Soviet Union still existed—as a resolution that the delegates had to approve by candlelight—posed little immediate threat to Yeltsin. And later that day, a rally to protest the demolition of the old union drew only about 15,000 demonstrators to the walls of the Kremlin in Moscow's March Square. Organizers had predicted that many more people would turn up to vent their displeasure with past government actions as widely unpopular policy moves on most accounts could be put

attribution are unlikely to check the strengthening alliance between old-line Communists and hard-line nationalists like Zhirinovskiy. The leaders of both extreme factions of Russian politics agree that there is only one way to restore the multicultural to power and prosperity through a dictator's iron rule. Zhirinovskiy first gained national prominence through his surprise bid for the Russian presidency last spring. At that time, Russian legislators had sought to accuse out Yeltsin's candidacy in the first, popular election of a national leader in the 1,000-year history of the Russian state. They did so by requiring petri-

Near his desk, a symbol of his controversial stature was slung on a chair: a bulletproof vest

oil petitions to demand signatures that at least 100,000 signatures. But Zhirinovskiy, the leader of the long Liberal-Democratic party, interrupted that battle. Of the six candidates, he alone posed the true through a little-known provision in a recently enacted election law that grants entry to anyone who can obtain backing from at least 30 percent of the Russian parliament's legislators. In a movement that many democrats charged was simply a counter-revolutionary tactic to divert voters from Yeltsin, the legislature's Communist bloc quickly endorsed Zhirinovskiy, at the time a political unknown. Declared prominent nationalist Nikolai Trushin after Zhirinovskiy launched his campaign with a rabble-rousing pledge to halve the price of vodka. "This nomination is sheer madness,"

Continued. Russian and foreign journalists alike discounted Zhirinovskiy's chances of success. But Zhirinovskiy proved himself to be a compelling and effective stump speaker. Away from such sophisticated urban centers as Mos-

cow and Leningrad, he struck a chord with ordinary people who sought reassurance and leadership as the old system collapsed about three. Sidelining his possession of two university degrees and knowledge of English, Spanish, German and French, Zhirinovskiy presented himself as an average man. "I am not of you," he repeatedly told the voters. "I am an ordinary Russian who lives in a two-room apartment and earns 200 rubles each month."

When the final ballots were counted Yeltsin drew about 47 million votes to win handsily over his nearest rival, former Soviet prime minister Nikolai Yavlinsky. But Zhirinovskiy received an million votes for a surprising third-place finish. It was a remarkable show of support for a candidate who talked about the need for Russia to control the Moscow of Soviet Central Asia, and who constantly complained that the strongest attacks against him were launched by journalists with Jewish surnames. And it was a pointed warning to the West that there were other, more dangerous choices open to Russians than Yeltsin's policies.

During the past 16 months, as the old union's economy has shrunk by at least 12 per cent, Zhirinovskiy has maintained his self-proclaimed position as Russia's case-against and its most outrageous politician. In a gloomy assessment of Zhirinovskiy's appeal last December, the Moscow daily newspaper *Argumenty* concluded, "Zhirinovskiy offers an attractive, overpopulated and concrete objective for everyone. For the poor to loosen the purges of the rich. For business people the opportunity to deal. For the military to return honor and dignity. For pensioners: a peaceful life in old age. For sick to transform into a Soviet health resort."

For now, Zhirinovskiy's power is limited to the grandiosity of his small party, an organization with its headquarters on the third floor of a crumbling pre-revolutionary building. There is a high-rolling suite of offices liberally placed with huge portraits of his megalomaniacal self. He is married and has a wife, Yelena, his 20-year-old son, Igor, who is following his father's example and studying law. Zhirinovskiy said that his party had recently tripled its monthly salary to 600 million (\$7.98 of the official exchange rate) because of rampant inflation. These few personal details developed, Zhirinovskiy quickly turned the conversation back to



Zhirinovskiy: in the public eye for urging the Leningrad mayor to fight a duel

politics. During the next presidential election, he claimed, 60 million Russians would vote for him. After that victory, he added, he would replace the chaos and disorder of the democrats with an authoritarian regime. Declared Zhirinovskiy, "If I win, I would do everything possible to ensure that the burdens of Russia correspond to those of the Soviet Union. The Baltic states, for instance, are Russian territo-

ry." Near his desk, a symbol of his controversial stature was slung casually across a chair: a bulletproof vest. Said Zhirinovskiy, "That was gift from our Soviet soldiers. But it is too heavy and I wear a lighter model at rallies and public meetings."

In recent months, Zhirinovskiy has kept himself in the public eye through such acts as

challenging Solovtsov to a duel over an imagined slight. He also led a small group of protesters to the walls of Moscow's Tchaikovsky (Baker's Station), a Moscow prison holding the leaders of August's failed hard-liners' coup against Mikhail Gorbachev, to demand their freedom. Said Zhirinovskiy of the plot: "They were trying to restore order and I publicly supported that last summer."

Analysis in Moscow held widely divergent opinions of Zhirinovskiy's political staving power. George Santorin, the director of Moscow city council's political research center, dismissed Zhirinovskiy as a marginal figure who did well in the last Russian presidential election only because Yeltsin was competing almost exclusively with field of opponents. By contrast, Boris Karavayev, a senior statesman at the Moscow Institute of State and Law, said that Zhirinovskiy has been allowed enough to cast himself as a populist leading such members of the old Soviet elite as Yeltsin and Gorbachev. Last week, Zhirinovskiy mildly rejected suggestions of this as an attempt to label him, a fascist who would seek to render in the field of hard times and social problems. Said Zhirinovskiy, "I much prefer to be compared to Bismarck, the 19th-century statesman who united Germany."

That appeal has some currency in 20th-century Russia. Santorin, Karavayev and other analysts acknowledge that there are vast numbers of disaffected Russians who are ready to support a leader who can restore national pride and impose order on the chaos of post-Soviet life. Among them are members of the far-right Soviet army and large Russian communities outside the motherland—including a Russian minority in Ukraine that comprises 23 per cent of the republic's 50 million people. For the soldiers, Zhirinovskiy promises nothing less than a return to the full alert status of the Cold War era as end to nuclear disarmament, no more associated with nuclear vulnerability. Estimates of a 300,000-member Soviet force that is still stationed in barracks located in eastern Germany. Such an undertaking would clearly damage relations between Russia and the West. But last week, Zhirinovskiy said Yeltsin's that such a prospect was preferable to Russia's current status as an international charity case.

Meanwhile, a shared dislike of democracy has united Zhirinovskiy and such Communists hard-liners as Viktor Aniskin, the so-called Black Colonel and one of the leaders of the Soviet (Kosovo) faction, a pressure group that opposed the breakup of the former superpower. But the relatively calm remark at last week's last-year government rally suggests that the alliance of reactionaries is not yet strong enough to challenge Yeltsin's current administration. And as long as they hope of gaining power on people's longing for order, Zhirinovskiy and other would-be dictators are competing with a man who has a notable tendency for making decisions, ignoring parliament and ruling with a firm hand. Boris Yeltsin.

MALCOLM GRAH in Moscow

LESSONS OF THE ORIENT

In an industry that thrives on flashy showmanship and razor-sharp marketing, Yves Landry has won renown as a team salesman. The first-acting president of Chrysler Canada Ltd. has a talent for making even the most gloomy situation sound hopeful—a considerable achievement, given the dark clouds hanging over the North American car business. Still, even Landry acknowledges a tinge of pessimism over his latest project: the long-awaited launch of a new generation of family sedans, due to begin rolling off the assembly line in June at Chrysler's state-of-the-art plant in Brampton, Ont., just northwest of Toronto. For the troubled automaker, the new models offer a chance to persuade skeptical car buyers that the company's products are as good as the Japanese competition. "Think about something as dumb as a door handle," 53-year-old Landry said between gulps of coffee in his Toronto hotel room during a recent interview. "It doesn't look and feel right, people are going to say, 'Hey, these guys still don't know what they are doing.' Our objective

CHRYSLER BETS ON IMPORTED IDEAS TO MAKE ITS NEW LINE OF SEDANS A SALES WINNER

is a handle that can compete with the best in the world—because the customer won't see anything less."

Landry, a native of Thetford Mines, Que., who joined the company as regional sales manager for his native province in 1989, is a legend as a patron saint among Chrysler executives. But never has more ridden on his ability to make a sale. The parent company of Chry-

sler Canada, Detroit-based Chrysler Corp., has struggled for years as the weakest of North America's three major automakers, behind General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. At a time when the competitive pressures from Japan's big companies are increasing rapidly, many analysts question whether Chrysler can survive the 1990s as an independent. Adding to the uncertainty is a change associated last week as the company's top management former GM executive Robert Rife, 52, will replace 67-year-old Chrysler chairman Leo (Lee) Iacocca at the end of this year (page 36). Chrysler's reply to its critics: a wave of sleek new sedans, of which the midsize ones slated for production in Brampton are by far the most important. The cars, code-named "LJ," are not only Chrysler's first all-new family sedans in 12 years, they are also the first fruits of a new approach to designing and engineering new vehicles. That approach, based on how the Japanese have long built cars, is designed to lower costs by drastically shortening the time required to take vehicles from the



Landry with LJ's world-class door handles and a fast-track production schedule

drawing board to dealers' showrooms.

Although the LJ cars are not expected to go on sale until next October (the company has not set prices yet, but they are likely to range between \$17,000 and \$20,000, depending on features), prototype vehicles are already the focus of intense scrutiny in the auto industry. The flurry of attention is partly because the new models incorporate what automotive stylists call a "cab-forward" design. By streamlining the engine compartment and extending the wheelbase over the front wheels, Chrysler's designers have succeeded the amount of passenger room without making their cars longer or heavier. In the next few years, most of Chrysler's competitors plan to offer similar cab-forward models as part of a trend towards sleeker, more wedge-shaped cars with improved aerodynamics and fuel efficiency.

Still, most auto-industry analysts say that they are less interested in the design of the new cars than in the process—and competitive pressures—that brought them to production. After struggling back from the brink of bankruptcy 12 years ago, Chrysler made about \$10 billion in profits between 1983 and 1990. But the company's turnaround came at a price: to boost earnings, Iacocca and his senior managers usually skipped on developing new products. Even now, many of Chrysler's vehicles, including the Chrysler New Yorker and Dodge Dynasty, are based on the front-wheel-drive K-car introduced in 1980. To grip up sales of

older, unexcitingly styled models, the company has been forced to hold the line on prices and offer substantial factory rebates.

Chrysler's strategy produced mixed results. Because older models do not require huge new investments in machinery and engineering, they are comparatively cheap to build. In 1991, Chrysler lost \$816 million on revenues of \$33.8 billion—a relatively strong performance in light of the overall slump in the car market. In the same year, industry leader GM lost a record \$3.1 billion on sales of \$142 billion. Chrysler's Canadian division actually managed to turn a profit: \$34.2 million on sales of \$8.3 billion. As Iacocca put it recently, "We have had to manage our way through the worst auto sales year since 1983."

But Chrysler cannot survive long simply by squeezing earnings from an elderly product line. Company officials acknowledge privately that the automaker is in urgent need of new car models to attract younger, more affluent buyers. Above all, the company has needed a new array of mid-priced family cars to rival such fast-selling competitors as the Ford Taurus, the Honda Accord and the Toyota Camry.

Chrysler executives say that the LJ is exactly what they have been looking for. "The winning was worth it," says Landry. Among other qualities, the first three new cars, to be known as Canada's Chrysler Intrepid and Concordo and the Eagle Vision, abandon the boxy profile of the old K-car line in favor of the

Business Notes

WORKING TOWARD OM

Unemployed workers at General Motors of Canada Ltd. in Oshawa, Ont., narrowly rejected a proposal that would have allowed managers to assign involuntarily overpaid employees at two car assembly plants—a decision that George Prentiss, president of GM Canada, said jeopardized thousands of jobs in Oshawa. Detroit-based General Motors Corp. has said that it will close one of the North American plants making midsize cars, the products made in Oshawa, as part of a plan to cut 74,000 jobs and 21 factories by 1995. The company had sought the concession to make the Oshawa facilities more competitive. Canadian Auto Workers president Robert White said that he would not support any plan that would force the union.

CANADIAN FLIES AMERICAN

Colony-based Canadian Airlines said that it has broken off talks with Air Canada of Montreal and seeks a strategic alliance with Texas-based American Airlines instead. In exchange for an equity investment worth up to 25 per cent of Canadian's stock, the U.S. airline would gain access to some of Canada's transatlantic routes and supply a variety of services, including accounting and reservations. The alliance could result in between 1,500 and 2,000 layoffs at Canadian.

REICHMANNY RETREAT

The Redwood Bark Rating Service issued a ratings alert on two short-term debt issues from Olympia & York Development Ltd., the good real estate company controlled by Toronto's Redwood family. In response, O&Y, the target of several lawsuits that it has admitted problems, announced that it will return \$400 million worth of its commercial paper—a form of corporate loan reserved for the most creditworthy companies.

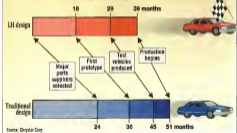
MORTGAGE MOVES

The first major Canadian banks increased their mortgage rates to levels ranging from 9.5 per cent for a one-year term, to 10.5 per cent for a five-year term. Housing analysts said that the increases could slow the recent uptick in the market.

COAL GOES BUST

Cell Manufacturing Co., the Hartford, Conn.-based gas maker whose mid-coastern helped tame the American West West, filed for protection from its creditors in U.S. bankruptcy court. The company, which has supplied the U.S. Army since 1944, had victim to its competitors' more innovative designs and cheaper products.

THE RACE TO MARKET



man's aerodynamic shape adopted by other models' newer models. (The front end of the Vaux, in fact, appears remarkably similar to that of the 1992 Honda Prelude.)

A just value, quality, however, may prove more important to Chrysler's bottom line. Landry points out that the same generation of workers is scheduled to begin retiring off the assembly line a mere 29 months after the company launched the LX project. Traditionally, North American automakers, including Chrysler, have required four or five years to get new vehicles into production. "Five years is a long time in this business," says Landry. "If you sit back and allow the Japanese to change models every three or four years, you're going to fall way behind."

To close the gap, Chrysler executives overhauled the company's traditional corporate structure. Like GM and Ford, Chrysler has been decentralized for decades by strong individual departments, including design, engineering, manufacturing, marketing and finance. The managers responsible for developing new cars had to negotiate separately with representatives of each department, who had their own interests to protect—resulting in costly battles and unnecessary delays.

By contrast, Japan's automakers use teams of specialists from each department to develop new vehicles. From the day that they begin working on a project, their sole focus is the success of that vehicle. The team leader, rather than acting as a mere co-ordinator among departments, has real power to cut through red tape and make sure that the final product meets expectations.

Although Chrysler's executives now have nothing but praise for the team approach to product development, they were not always impressed by the Japanese way of doing things. Indeed, the company filed suit against General Motors in 1984, after GM announced that it was entering a joint venture with Toyota to build compact cars in California. In its suit, Chrysler complained that the agreement violated its U.S. antitrust laws and would create unfair competition in North America. The case was settled privately in 1985—leaving GM free to pursue the joint venture.

After failing to stop GM, however—despite his repeated criticisms of Japan's trade policies—decided that Chrysler needed a Japanese ally of its own. He quickly formed a joint venture with Mitsubishi Motors to develop and manufacture small sporty cars in the United States. The new collaboration, based in Normal, IL, was named Diamond Star Motors, and the man chosen to be its chairman was Glenn Gardner, an energetic Chrysler execu-

tive who had joined the automaker as a student engineer in 1958. "I know Lee gets painted as a wheeler, but I don't agree with that," Gardner said in an interview. Chrysler's Detroit head quarters. "Why is he called the bad boy down in Diamond Star? He said, 'Gimme go there and learn. If we can't lick them, join them.'"

Gardner, 56, who spent three years at Diamond Star before returning to Chrysler to supervise the LX project, says that the experience of working with Japanese engineers and managers was eye-opening. "My track record before the Mitsubishi project was pretty good, but when I got to Diamond Star, I felt not that I still had a heck of a lot to learn," he recalled. "I really had to eat crow."

By contrast, Gardner says, the entire new-product team at Diamond Star consisted of about 600 people—about half as many as

with a clean sheet of paper," said Gardner. Chrysler's general manager of engineering for larger and midsize cars he added. "The original budget for the LX was about 1,600 vehicle-engineering people. The largest number we have ever had on the team was 741. That's pretty good for a start."

By adopting the team approach, Chrysler also succeeded in developing the LX cars faster than it had ever produced a vehicle before. The first prototype was ready 92 weeks before the scheduled start of production—32 weeks earlier than in the past. Last autumn, 110 employees from the Chrysler plant traveled to Detroit to begin assembling complete vehicles for testing. Traditionally, that kind of work was not done until about four months before the start of production. The team also allowed Chrysler's engineers to correct flaws and con-



Isenoo (left), Nissan's multi-spoken engineer takes over from a cigar-chomping partner

Chrysler would have needed to develop a vehicle using the traditional North American approach. And at Mitsubishi's insistence, the new company forged a close working relationship with outside suppliers at the outset of the project, rather than selecting bids after the engineers and designers had drawn up final specifications. That allowed the team to consult on a daily basis with parts suppliers on the design of the vehicle, modifying their plans to ensure that the cars could be assembled efficiently and at minimal cost.

In the scramble to raise money for its own product development activities, Chrysler pulled out of Diamond Star last year, selling its 50-per-cent stake to Mitsubishi for \$140 million. But Chrysler dealers will still sell cars models co-developed by Diamond Star in Normal, the two-car Plymouth Laser and the Eagle Talon. More importantly, Chrysler has applied many of the lessons it learned from Mitsubishi to the LX project. "We started out

with designs on foot, the cars could be manufactured even efficiently. Said John Pirovetti, 37, the Brazilian plant manager: "The cost of making changes early in the process is significantly lower. It's all of those hundreds of little things that determine whether you can build a decent-price product."

Now, all that remains is for Chrysler to persuade its critics, including the millions of North Americans who have lost faith in Chrysler's ability to compete with the Japanese, that it has finally closed the gap with its overseas rivals. Landry, the conservative chairman, says that he is looking forward to the challenge. "When you're spinning hundreds of millions of dollars a month on product development," he added, "you'd better get it right. We simply can't afford to mess out with a legacy product." Indeed, nothing less than Chrysler's survival is at stake.

ROSS LARSEN

At Home With Work

A Guide To Operating A Home Office



Today, however, it's the usage of the upscale, professional home office that prevails. Many of us are either working in, or thinking about setting up, our own high-tech basements in our suburbs, downtowns or rural homes.

As we move into the mid-1990s, the chances are good that one of the following "workstyle" scenarios will describe you. Do you or would you like to

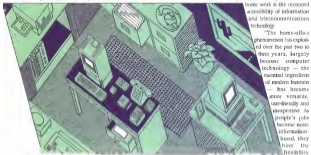
ONCE UPON A TIME, NOT SO VERY LONG AGO, the words "home worker" or "home-based business" conjured up images of hapless piece workers or underachieving would-be entrepreneurs.

home? The answer to this question are interesting to home-based entrepreneurs, home-office workers and the companies that are eager to supply this multi-billion dollar per annum market with products and services used to run home offices.

Douglas A. Craig is the author of *Home Inc.*, The Canadian Home-Based Business Guide (McGraw-Hill). He asserts that one of the key reasons for the proliferation of

home work is the increased availability of information and telecommunications technology.

"The home-office phenomenon has exploded over the past two to three years, largely because computer technology—the essential ingredient of modern business—has become more versatile, user-friendly and inexpensive. As people's jobs become more information-based, they have the flexibility



- operate a full-time business based at your home?
- have a full-time job and run a part-time business out of your home?
- have an employer who allows or equips you to work at home, during part or all of your normal work week?
- do your "weektime" work at home?

If one of these scenarios sounds familiar, you are or will be part of the fastest growing and most dynamic group in the Canadian marketplace: the Home Office sector. It's a sector that represents millions of Canadians. And, by the year 2000, estimates suggest that a significant number of Canadians will have selected the home-work alternative.

Just why are so many Canadians opting to work at

to use their work equipment in a home office?

Leslie M. Russell designed the first-ever Canadian Work-at-Home Surveys for the National Home Business Institute. While she agrees that technology is breaking down the barriers between the traditional home and office, she adds that the demographics of the Canadian labor force play a significant role in the growth of the home-office sector.

"Canadians have the flexibility of working from home, and are doing it in increasing numbers. The majority of our working population is between the ages of 30 and 50, well-educated and working harder than ever before—to get ahead or just to stay afloat.

"Many are getting a greater value on home life—hence the appeal of a home-office to run a business, to work

Who are you
going to have to
be today?



Sales Manager?



Customer Representative?



Office Manager?



Marketing Director?



Advertising Manager?



Accountant?

As the manager of a small business, you never know what you'll have to do next.

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as a corporate telecommuter or simply for overtime work."

The image of the home office worker as the underachiever who can't afford a "proper" office is certainly refuted by the National Home Based Business Institute's Canadian Work-at-Home Surveys. The studies profiled the average home-office worker as a very desirable target: the average age is 38, 80 per cent are university-educated, \$65,000 is the average household income.

While the personal appeal and the technical efficiency of working at home are obvious, another important factor in the home-office boom is the number of people who are choosing to leave the corporate environment to pursue the entrepreneurial dream.

While some are "falling out" from the downsizing and merg-

HOME-OFFICE STATISTICS IMPRESSIVE

- The average full-or part-time home office worker is 38 years old, with a household income of \$65,000.
- Between the 1991 and 1992 Canadian Work-at-Home Surveys, there was a 58 per cent increase in the number of "telecommuting home workers."
- 24 per cent of full-time home-based businesses have invested \$5,000 or more in their work spaces.
- A work-at-home household is almost four times more likely to have a computer than the average Canadian household.
- The average home office spends close to \$200 per month on overhead, products and services. This total does not include taxes, and legal and accounting costs.

Source: National Home Based Business Institute's Canadian Work-at-Home Surveys 1991-1992

the main reason for operating from home. "Personal satisfaction" was cited as the greatest motive for home work, according to the survey respondents. In addition, 87 per cent of the sample claimed they are "more productive" at home and 83 per cent said work-at-home works for them for personal and family considerations.

Tax Advantages on the Home Front

Bearing the taxman is one of the most commonly cited benefits of operating a home-based business. Whether you're working part-time or full-time out of your home, Revenue Canada's main criteria on any expense claimed is that it is reasonable and was incurred for the purpose of attempting to earn income.

While some business expenses are fully deductible within the same year, others have to be depreciated over time.

Revenue Canada states that the use of your home designated as your "business location" must be used exclusively and regularly for business-related purposes. This could include a work area, an office area and storage space. If you do have customers coming to your home, claim a separate reception area and washrooms for business use.

There are various ways of calculating the percentage of home office use. You can divide the total house or apartment square footage by the overall square footage used for business-related purposes, or calculate the number of rooms used of the total rooms in the house. Don't forget to include any remodeling and decorating costs involved in converting a room. These

improvements are considered allowable expenses that are 100 per cent deductible, but are depreciated over a five-year period for example.

In addition, you can claim a portion of all the house-related expenses for your home office use: mortgage interest and property taxes—or rent—plus insurance, maintenance costs, and utilities (electricity, water, heating, telephone). If your total house expenses are \$36,000 per year and 25 per cent of your house relates to your home office, the deductible expense against business income would be \$7,500 per year.

If you have one car and use it 50 per cent of the time for business, claim half of all your car-related expenses (e.g. gas, oil, maintenance, insurance) as business expenses. If you have two cars and use one exclusively for business, you can claim 100 per cent of that car's expenses. Be sure to claim depreciation on your car and deduct that as an expense over time.

Your office furniture and equipment have to be depreciated over time, using the capital cost allowance formula, which allows for a portion (usually 30 per cent) to be deducted each year.

You can deduct all the cost of supplies

or services required for your business within the same year the expenses were incurred.

Salaries paid to your children, spouse or relatives to perform work for your company are also deductible business expenses. However, you should not pay them any more than you would someone else for the same services.

Entertaining customers (whether within your home or in public places) for promotion or prospecting purposes is another deductible expense. You can claim as an expense 80 per cent of the cost of the maintenance of meals including tips and taxes.

Your professional education and attending conventions and trade shows provide other opportunities to claim deductions against your business.

For further information on expenses and depreciation, contact Revenue Canada and ask for the "Business and Professional Income Tax Guide." Claim tax relief prior to starting your business and use an existing loan from a professionally qualified accountant such as a Chartered Accountant or Certified General Accountant. Ask him or her about issues such as income splitting, fixed personal and business structure, and ways of maximizing deductions and minimizing taxes.

By Douglas A. Gray

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for
line
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High-Tech Havens

While a typewriter, a telephone and the kitchen table may be the essential equipment for some home workers, yet in many homes better equipment and furnishings than their counterparts in regular offices are quickly recognizing the high-tech appetite of home workers.

Linda M. Russell, who designed the National Home Business Institute's Canada Market-Home Surveys (1991-92), comments:

"Designing and marketing technology used to be simple," Russell says. "On the one hand, you had the consumer household, and, on the other, the commercial business. The work-at-home phenomenon has created a new segment: the 'for-profit' consumer household."

"This household will be much more receptive to leading-edge products and services than even the 'technologically smart' Canadian home. The profit motive is what separates these early adopters from the rest of the consumer pack."

While the ever-growing range of technology may make experienced home-office workers as delighted (and as indecisive) as that kid in the candy store, assigning the state of the fledgling home workers. For them, the array of potential home-office technology can be dizzying. There's so much to choose from and so many decisions to make. What brand name, power and type of computer do you need? What features are essential for the business machine? What software is best for your business, and, above all, what can't you live without?

The most obvious tool that can't be lived without is, of course, the telephone. While the two-line phone is high on the shopping list of home businesses, some of the most exciting telephone news is in the service options, not the hardware.

Look into Bell Canada's existing and upcoming offerings, such as Call Waiting and Ident-a-Call, which allows up to three different phone numbers on one line. Call Answer routes incoming calls when your line is busy or unanswered by the third ring to a voice mailbox.

There's a host of other products and services that can boost your telephone usage. The Smart Receptionist, for example, from VNC Systems, uses a single-line phone to answer your phone with a sophisticated announcement with "options" that route the incoming call to your bigger business. Your outgoing mes-

sage could extend calls to "Out 5 for customer service, 6 for accounts receivable, 7 to send a fax."

For many home businesses, the cost of long distance is a vital consideration in telephone answering techniques. Long-distance Checkers Management has just introduced long-distance discount programs for small businesses that offer a 30 per cent discount on North American long distance, with no minimum monthly calls.

Anatomy of a Home Office

Business
Computers
Modems
Software
Fax
In-line
Telecommunications

Printing/Scanning
Scanner
Laser
Fuser/Computers
Copier
Better Software
Enhanced Communications

* Source: NBI's Canadian Work at Home Survey, 1991-92



While the new technologies can hike the verbal communications power of any home office, the written word is still essential to most. And, despite the importance of the personal computer in the home-office revolution, the fax machine has played an equally vital role in breaking down the barriers between the home and the "real" office.

Recognizing the importance of the fax for the home user, manufacturers have been refining their fax machines by adding functions and reducing actual size.

The latest HP260 Fax/Phone/Answering Machine, which retails for around \$950, contains several purposes in one compact unit. The smallest machine on the market, the Minolta M700, distributed in Canada by Fourimage Electronics, Entertainment, packs a 20-number autoholder, automatic voicemail switch and built-in telephone into just 5.5 pounds.

While the personal computer is the obvious solution for most home businesses, many new businesses that are started on a budget (or by the computer-ship) opt for personal word processors. Smith Corona, for example, recently launched a new line of word processors that offer a full personal word processor and can exchange word processing files with a personal computer. And the home office is one of the best places for the portable typewriter. The Sharp JW-3000, a portable typewriter, for example, has a spell checker and a 20-character LCD display.

Electronic organizers, which are popular with both computer experts and novices, are covered by many home-office work. These lightweight pocket-size organizers are useful both on the road and at the desk to keep schedules, record expenses, maintain telephone call logs, directories, perform calculations, etc.

The Sharp SZ-3300M, for example, boasts 64 kilobytes of memory and has a multi-lingual display. CMMO, the dual manufacturer of these electronic organizers, recently introduced the compact KI-2000 Label Writer, which prints address labels directly

from their 8 1/2-inch electronic organizers.

For the committed personal computer user, the choice is staggering: desktop vs. laptop vs. notebook, 386 vs. 486, Apple vs. MS-DOS, brand name vs. clone? And, while a year ago, price could have been the deciding factor, reductions in prices by the personal computer leaders—Apple and IBM—are making computer shopping even more exciting.

Last month, Apple Canada, for example, reduced the price of its popular entry-level Macintosh Classic personal computer from \$1729 to \$1449. While not the solution for the sophisticated designer or graphics user, it's an affordable, very compact and that persons will be using home users. Many dealers are packaging the Mac Classic with the newly introduced ClassicWorld software, which includes a word processor, database, graphics, spreadsheet, communications package for access to on-line services.

DESIGNING THE HOME OFFICE

The physical design of your work space is important: a well-designed space ensures both your comfort and efficiency. The constraints of the work area will modify how well even the best equipment and the most experienced home worker fares.

The design procedure can occur at any stage of your home-office setup. Whether you're contemplating creating an office for "overtime" work or you're a seasoned home-based pro, spending a few hours planning your office design will pay off in increased productivity and decreased head aches.

The first step is to identify and list all of your equipment—existing, required and anticipated—along with their "specs," such as size, power and clearance. Do not forget to consider space for storage of files, literature, supplies, etc.

The next step is to consider the space you've chosen to use. Examine its size, shape and character. After you've considered such things as lighting, ventilation, floor finish, heating and cooling, fresh air supply, windows and electrical outlets, you can begin to lay out your equipment in the space.

If renovations and construction are part of your home office, there are two

"Packaged" offerings are very popular, especially for novice home users. The IBM Personal System/1 (PS/1) comes pre-loaded with DOS, the integrated software package Microsoft Works and a built-in internal modem for connection to other users, the "head" office or on-line information networks.

On-line information networks, such as the MessagePad, Ontario-based Canada Remote Systems (CRS), are another important tool for home-office workers. CRS, for example, offers technical support, a fax-sending service, computer shareware software, stock market results and several information services.

Remember, to get the best deal on equipment, focus clearly on present and future needs, thoroughly research your product and be a tough negotiator.

By Jo-Anne Austin



important factors to consider. The first is that your constraints, like your home-business operation itself, may be subject to local bylaws and zoning regulations. Investigate before you proceed.

The second factor is that a poorly thought-out home-office renovation can create a less salable home. For example, building a second story to accommodate your home office and perhaps the next owner's family room could be a smarter move than converting—and losing—a garage. And keep these bedroom elements so that the home-office room can still be listed as a bedroom where resale time comes.

To properly lay out your space, you must decide where you want your equipment and work areas. Some key considerations:

- Are you left- or right-handed?
- Will there be more than one person to use or work in the space?
- What information do your callers need and is it handy to the telephone?

With your layout concept determined, you can decide on the changes needed in your physical space. This may include reorienting the walls to reduce glare, adding more power outlets, removing or creating walls, closets, etc.

By Karen Mauer

Telecommuter: An Electronically Linked Corporate Employee

The idea of being paid by your company to stay home, or closer to home, to work, sounds attractive to many corporate employees. Field footage by increased commuting traffic, traffic and the complex demands of family life, many Canadians are finding the personal toll of traditional 9-to-5 employment increasingly hard to balance against the benefits of savings psychology.

With the expansion of information technology and telecommunication tools that make working anywhere legitimate, and the growth in computer literacy, workers are finally able to capture the means of production. And they're taking it home.

The telecommuter, a byline of the work-at-home trend, is, without a doubt, the single fastest growing segment of the work-at-home market. The National Home Business Institute Canadian Work-at-Home Survey tracked a 60 per cent increase in the number of telecommuters between 1991 and 1992. In the United States, a New York-based firm, LINK Resources, reported 5.5 million telecommuters, up 35 per cent from 1990.

For these workers, telecommuting is more than just a job option. It can significantly affect the quality of their life—and their work.

But the positive effects of home or satellite office programs go beyond lifestyle and career rewards for the individual employee. Telecommuting also has important benefits for public and private sector employers.

Many organizations have already exhausted most of the front-line recession strategy options, they're as lean as they can get. Telecommuting programs can yield some significant returns, from infrastructure savings for the beleaguered public sector, to overhead and labor productivity gains for corporate employers. Have any of these savings been quantified? Yes.

PUBLIC SECTOR — MEGA SAVINGS

Using a standard benefit-cost analysis, recent research in British Columbia showed that if 26,200 telecommuters were working in Vancouver by the year 2001, the gross savings to public and private sector entities would be \$869.5 million dollars. A full 75 per cent, or \$662.5 million, would be cost savings in the

transportation infrastructure.

Based on the assumption of a gross investment of \$111.6 million, including \$25.4 million for telecommuting incentives, this represents a 677 per cent return on investment.

Not bad for staying at home.

Those same 26,200 telecommuters represent 4,387 tonnes of pollution that would not be pumped into Vancouver's air. The projected cost of cleanup was not measured.

PRIVATE SECTOR — HARD COSTS & HUMAN RESOURCES

Savings for the corporate sector are even easier to quantify. If you examine hard costs like office space, parking and electricity, there are solid savings for any company.

Add to these such soft costs as increases in employee productivity and retention of recruiting investment, the typical gross savings for a company with 10 telecommuters (at \$35,000 annual salary) would be tens of thousands of dollars per year, depending on overhead.

Well-investigated telecommuting programs can produce savings and increased net labor productivity within many Canadian firms—a necessity in the face of hyper-productive global competition. And many companies

have already decided to "be there" with telecommuting programs before their domestic competition. One of Canada's largest financial institutions—which asked not to be named to maintain its competitive advantage—has enjoyed such good results from a pilot program of home-based computer workers that they plan to significantly expand participation by the end of next year. The program will not roll out concurrently with a consolidation of regular employees into lower cost office space.

But, even as the lure of selling employees and measurable savings, there are currently no government incentives to encourage telecommuting, and it is estimated there are fewer than 900 such programs across North America.

In face a down side to telecommuting? Yes, and many of the potential problems lie in the handling of human resource issues. Not every employer can be or wants to be a telecommuter home-work may not suit his or her home environment or personal work habits. Some managers will resist the concept of off-site management of resources and productivity, versus on-site control of individuals and their time. And, of course, certain types of jobs must be performed in the central office location.

But the upside is clear: significant long-term infrastructure cost savings, increased productivity, ability to hold on to the valuable "institutional wisdom" and the chance to contribute to a cleaner, greener, safer Canada.

By Linda M. Russell



Source: Statistics Canada, Office Strategies for Telecommuting in Greater Vancouver Region, 1990-1991. Based on data from 1990.



ductivity gains for corporate employers. Have any of these savings been quantified? Yes.



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A "Bigger" Business Image for the Home Business

While creating a positive first impression is important to any business's long-term success strategy, it's critical to the home-based business. A frequent misperception, for example, is that home-based businesses are short-term ventures until the job market improves, or part-time interests that may not be able to handle volume accounts. Such first impressions or biases could cause you to lose prospective sales before the person has even picked up the telephone to call you. With thoughtful and cost-effective planning, you won't fall victim to this potential problem.

Consider the image you want to create and the people you want to reach with your marketing message; then repeat that message in everything you do. Consistency in the following areas will present a clear and believable message that you are a real business.

1. Name. Your company name should be easy to spell, easy to pronounce and, most importantly, easy to remember. Perfectly it should be short and pithy; the message of what your business does. Using both your first and last names on your business card will indicate a friendly and personal approach. On the other hand, a consultant who wishes to present a clear message of expertise may prefer to exclude professional and technical degrees after his or her name. Be careful, too, about the title you select for yourself.

2. Surroundings, Logo and Presentation Materials. The color and quality of the stationery you choose creates definite impressions. A logo can make your business distinctive and memorable; use it to provide a coordinated image on all your printed materials. Select a quality of paper stock and a design style that are consistent with the pricing of your service or product.

3. Telephone. For most businesses, the telephone is the most important means of communication. Be certain it conveys the message that you take your business seriously. Have a separate telephone line for your business (preferably located away from household noise) and answer it professionally with your name or the business name. Keep your personal line for family members to use. If you use an answering machine, ensure that your message is clear and businesslike. And, depending on the nature of your business and your client base, you may want to opt for a personalized telephone answering service or a voice mail system that presents a more professional image. (See "High Tech Helpers" page 5 for the latest in phone system solutions.)



3. Business Address. For reasons of confidentiality, privacy or security, it may be preferable not to use your home address as your business address. A postal office mailbox is an alternative, although for some it may create a "business" image. Use of a "professional identity package" service through a business center or executive suite will allow you to use a business mailing

address. Your "suite" may indeed be a mailbox in the crate, but your mailbox image is conveyed.

Located in the Yellow Pages under "Offices and Desk Rental Space," these companies cater to the needs of the home business that needs a "bigger" business image. Look for a business center with comprehensive services such as telephone answering, a mailing address service, filing, word processing, photocopying, etc.

4. Work Space. How much time, effort and money you put into the appearance and contents of your work place will, of course, depend on whether customers will be visiting your home. Privacy, quietness, access to workstation facilities, as well as surroundings that are comfortable and conducive to your type of work, are all image-related factors.

As a final step, take an "image audit" through a typical client's eyes. Ask a colleague or friend to give you candid feedback on the image your business presents. It's a critical step that can assure the success of your home business.

By Douglas A. Gaur

The National Home Business Institute is a national organization that provides an exciting career opportunity for individuals interested in the home office marketplace. For more information see us online.

 Need more information about home office opportunities?

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BUSINESS

The quiet conqueror

Chrysler finds Iacocca's heir in Europe

Although the two may design cars for rival manufacturers in Detroit, General Motors Corp.'s vice-president of design Charles Jordan, and his counterpart at Chrysler Corp., Thomas Gale, are personal friends. Last week, after outgoing Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca surprised the automotive industry by naming Robert Eaton, president of GM Europe, as his successor, Gale telephoned Jordan and asked him what Eaton was really like. Jordan replied that he had nothing but praise for his former boss. "Those of us in the creative end of our company know him very well," Jordan said. "Chrysler has a great team there now. I'm envious."

Some senior Chrysler managers had more personal reasons to be envious. By choosing Eaton, Chrysler's board of directors had to push aside the flamboyant Iacocca, 67, who had campaigned hard in recent months to stay on as chairman just his assumed retirement date of Dec. 31. The board also passed over company president Robert Lutz, 60, widely regarded until last week as Iacocca's heir apparent. Nine other high-ranking executives have left the company over the past two years, including Chrysler vice-chairman Gerald Greenwald, who quit abruptly in 1986, but who still enjoyed widespread support among Chrysler's senior management. Still, it is clear already to present a united front, Lutz declared. "You don't talk or quit when someone else is appointed captain of the team."

At first glance, the difference in personalities between the subdued Eaton and the tough-talking, cigar-smoking Iacocca could not be greater. Shortly after Henry Ford II fired him as president of Ford Motor Co. in 1978, Iacocca took on the top job at Chrysler, which was then on the brink of bankruptcy. With the help of \$1.7 billion in U.S. government loan guarantees, he guided the company back to profitability in the early 1980s. He also became a celebrity by appearing in the company's television commercials and publishing a bestselling autobiography.

By contrast, Eaton has spent almost his entire career out of the limelight, in design and engineering jobs. When they worked together at GM, said Jordan, Eaton "lived" to just sit down and talk about cars," even in his spare time. And unlike the three-wheeled Iacocca, Eaton has been married to his wife, Carolyn, for 28 years; they have two sons. Indeed, last week a joke quickly began circulating in Detroit: "They are going to rename those blank books they sell in libraries. They are going to call them *Eaton As An Autobiography*."

Because Eaton has only limited experience in finance and marketing, some analysts advised caution about anointing in Chrysler as the

coming months. They added that Eaton may have difficulty running a much smaller and less visible company than GM. Said David Dresman, chairman of New York City-based investment firm Dresman Value Management Inc., who

sold all his firm's Chrysler stock earlier this year, "Eaton has had no experience in Chrysler's type of culture—the culture of survival." Last year, however, GM Europe posted a \$3.5-billion profit under Eaton's direction, while GM as a whole lost a record \$5.1 billion, said Jordan. "He does not have a narrow Detroit mentality. He has a broad viewpoint." Unlike his predecessor, Eaton, who declined requests for interviews but would, seems to be content to let his actions speak louder than his words.

JERRY DALY

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about it. There's nothing you can do." That's why some trainers never get turned around if they script loose."

Messier carries his attitudes all the way, as well. He rarely fraternizes with opponents, he usually waits 10 years before a word to some members of the Calgary Flames, the Oilers' archrivals. But among his new intimates, Messier is relaxed—eventually. In the world, "it is the best way to do the job," a long legend who often felt he could barely get into a 50-minute game. He was an athlete and a big-brained figure who takes an interest in his personal life. When Campbell, a Rangers assistant coach, said that Messier's personality is so forced that he even intimidates the coaching staff.

Several times that season, Messier has given his teammates pep talks when he saw their play slipping. At the end of a recent Washington work-out session, he was named a 5-0 loss to the Washington Capitals—Nolan announced his players to one side of the rink for a brief lecture on puck pursuit in the opposition's end. He then headed for the locker room—and Messier took over. With his teammates gathered around him, the captain addressed the team for 10 minutes. Neither he nor the other players would reveal what he said, but the Rangers called a three-game losing streak by whipping the Chicago Blackhawks.

It is a Monday night, and Paul Messier and his sister Mary-Kay are watching the Rangers battle the Capitals from their usual seats in the family's sky suite at Madison Square Garden. The suite, which is located at Mark's contract, is carpeted and comfortable, and the Messiers have a dozen guests at for the game. But Paul sits alone, elbows on his knees, jaw resting on his hands—deeply unimpressed in the game. Suddenly, when the referee calls a penalty against the Rangers, he erupts, leaving from his seat and denouncing the whistle blower with a string of expletives. Paul is not the only one watching intently. In the second period, he is summoned to the phone to take a call from his brother, Doug, who is visiting the press box while sitting with Mark's second-in-command in Hilton Head, S.C. "He just wanted to know what happened to Mark on that last play," Paul Messier says after returning to his seat, "and I told him it looked like he punched his head."

For the Messiers, hockey and family have

always been synonymous. Paul said that he and his siblings grew up watching their father play and professional hockey in Portland, Ore. The other Doug, 55, who was also a teacher, coached both his sons when they played. Tier 1 junior hockey as teenagers growing up in the Edgewater suburb of St. Albans. Paul went on to play four seasons in the minor leagues in North America—it was only after a spate of skill for some years with the now-defunct Colorado Rockies—followed by seven seasons in Mannheim, Germany. Mark played four years in the minors before jumping to the Oilers, where

it finally drove him. Paul said that he and his siblings grew up watching their father play and professional hockey in Portland, Ore. The other Doug, 55, who was also a teacher, coached both his sons when they played. Tier 1 junior hockey as teenagers growing up in the Edgewater suburb of St. Albans. Paul went on to play four seasons in the minor leagues in North America—it was only after a spate of skill for some years with the now-defunct Colorado Rockies—followed by seven seasons in Mannheim, Germany. Mark played four years in the minors before jumping to the Oilers, where

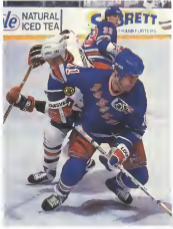
When he signed with the Rangers, Messier relied on his father and brother to negotiate a five-year contract. Although he would get divorce details, he said that the deal contains no escalation clause that will allow him to receive one of the three highest-paid players in the league as much of the next four seasons, pending he meets certain performance targets. The brother-and-sister team also has negotiated player-replacement deals for their famous sibling: one to produce a series of limited-edition, lithographic, depicting Messier in action—\$998 apiece—and the other to produce a line of sports-card leaders and school products.

"It's a challenging guy who wants hard every night," said David Trench, a Philadelphia agent whose New Jersey-based company makes the school products. "This is New York—you can't find that in New York very often."

But Messier's own focus remains playing the game, even as a strike threatens to disrupt the NHL season. In tense talks over a new collective bargaining agreement, the players are demanding lower restrictions on their ability to move from one team to another in free agency, as

well as a better arbitration system in salary disputes and a larger share of playoff revenues. But the owners contend that their current plan with changes according to press reports, they will collectively lose \$17 million this year, down from a record profit of \$52 million last year. A player-agent would also have the CIO, which has the TV rights to the playoffs, in recent to recruit and add money. But for Messier, the contract dispute is just so much background noise. He clearly is not done with his playing career, but carrying hockey's most beloved trophy, the Stanley Cup, down a credit-filled Broadway.

BY JERRY JENSEN is New York City



Messier in action: "Winning a Stanley Cup doesn't just happen."

he remained until last October—when the brothers moved many of the trade over a cellular phone while going at Hilton Head. For his first couple of months in New York, Messier stayed at the Westbury Hotel and dined frequently at its exclusive restaurant, the Polo Matrie of Michel Pennoit said that he assigned Messier a personal aide and introduced him to such celebrity clients as former sportswriter Howard Cosell and rock singer Cyndi Lauper. Messier has since landed a luxury condominium in a 75-story, sleek black-glass-and-metal tower two doors down from Carnegie Hall on West 57th Street. He keeps one of his three cars in the city, a 1987 Bentley that he bought from Greyhound, and

HEALTH

Dow Corning's retreat

The implant maker withdraws from the market

For all its dreams, the dream will do little to end the debate over the use of silicone-gel breast implants. After more than a century, Dow Corning Corp. of Midland, Mich., announced last week in Washington and Ottawa that it was permanently withdrawing its silicone-gel implants from the market. But the company, and some plastic surgeons, continued to argue that the devices are safe. And some doctors say that they still see patients who want to improve their looks and self-esteem through breast enlargement. Still, some implant recipients who wanted the silicone-filled devices have caused serious health problems that could be Dow Corning's motives. Dow Corning, a 44-year-old Vancouver-area woman and leader of an activist advocacy group. "It just allows them to back out of the public eye and allows the heat to cool down. It's another death to women."

In early January, both the Canadian and American governments responded to the safety controversy by imposing temporary restrictions on the use of all silicone-gel implants. As well, over the past 12 years, hundreds of implant recipients have filed lawsuits against Dow Corning, the largest manufacturer of breast-implant devices, claiming that the devices have caused or contributed to health problems. Dow Corning chairman Keith McKenna said during a March 18 Washington news conference that the implants were a "small, negligible part of the company's total business that suffered from the prolonged public controversy. Such is the case with Cosmopolitan. Adolph Miller, dispute claims that the implants can be harmful."

Still, Dow Corning will set up a \$10-million fund to support independent research on implants by outside experts. The company will give American recipients up to \$1,360 each to cover the costs of having implants removed, if that is medically necessary. Canadian women will be eligible for these funds. Miller says because provincial health plans would cover the cost of surgery.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration estimates that more than one million American women have received silicone-gel implants over the past 30 years. 80 per cent of them for cosmetic reasons. In Canada, an estimated 150,000 women have received implants. A small majority of recipients in both Canada and the United States have complained that the implants have ruptured, allowing gel to leak into the breast cavity and migrate to other parts of the body. Some women maintain that implant problems cause pain in the chest, arms and back, as well as debilitating autoimmune

diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis. Some also complain that scar tissue formed around the implants, causing a hardening of the breasts.

The debate over implants continued after Dow Corning's announcement last week. "I think it's unfair to say they've had a good product that's been used for 30 years," said Dr. John Taylor, Toronto-based vice-president of the Canadian Society for Aesthetic (Cosmetic) Plastic Surgery. But Vancouver's Wilson, who has had Dow Corning implants for several years and who has had pain in her chest, upper arms and back for the past six months, says Wilson and many other women who have been unattended with implants, the safety and discomfort continue.

BY JERRY JENSEN

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An ounce of prevention

Experts lead a new assault on breast cancer

Just before Christmas, 1990, Joanne Vossak found a lump in her breast. But Vossak was not overly concerned; her doctors at Red Deer, Alta., told her that it was probably a benign spot, and she already knew that she was at low risk for breast cancer because of her age, 35, and the fact that she had caused three children. But the lump grew

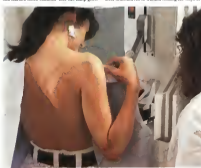
and, in both countries, the death rate among those who get the disease is about one in four over a five-year period. This year, an estimated 5,200 women in Canada will die of the disease. While death rates among breast cancer patients are now lower than 20 years ago, the number of women diagnosed with the disease is higher, and many women and their doctors say that the two decades of research should have yielded better results. Most experts respond that the high number of new cases is partly explained by the increasing age of the population and by improvements in the quality and extent of mammographic testing. The test, which uses small doses of radiation to highlight changes in breast tissue, can isolate tumors too small to be detected by physical examination. As a result, experts say, the figures now include cancers that would not have been found two decades ago.

Doctors acknowledge, however, that better detection is only part of the explanation and that other factors stand much more research. Dr. Michael Hesterman, an epidemiologist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, has conducted preliminary studies on the relationship between dietary fat and breast cancer in post-menopausal American women. Like many researchers, he believes that future studies will confirm a direct link between the high fat diet of North Americans and the relatively high rates of breast cancer in the United States and Canada. International studies have already shown that Japanese women, whose diet consists about 52 per cent fat, have a far lower incidence of breast cancer than North American women, whose typical diet includes about 42 per cent fat. However, when a questionnaire to North American Japanese women showed the same rate of breast cancer as other North American women.

But research is also under way in Canada, at the Ontario Cancer Institute in Toronto and the British Columbia Cancer Agency in Vancouver. These studies are examining the relationship between a low-fat diet and the prevention of breast cancer in healthy women. Gregory Blagop, an epidemiologist working on the Vancouver study, echoed Hesterman's conclusions and added that only a dramatic drop in dietary fat is likely to have a preventive effect on breast cancer. "It is still very controversial, but most people agree that it is prudent to reduce fat intake," Blagop said. "But it can be difficult to get it very low, say 20 per cent, without the advice of a dietitian."

In addition to dietary changes, researchers are exploring new ways to use the hormonal drug tamoxifen. A staple of breast cancer treatment, tamoxifen is also under way in Canada, at the Ontario Cancer Institute in Toronto and the British Columbia Cancer Agency in Vancouver. These studies are examining the relationship between a low-fat diet and the prevention of breast cancer in healthy women. Gregory Blagop, an epidemiologist working on the Vancouver study, echoed Hesterman's conclusions and added that only a dramatic drop in dietary fat is likely to have a preventive effect on breast cancer. "It is still very controversial, but most people agree that it is prudent to reduce fat intake," Blagop said. "But it can be difficult to get it very low, say 20 per cent, without the advice of a dietitian."

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Patient having mammogram: doctors agree that environmental factors are part of the cause

and, in January, a biopsy revealed a malignant cancer. Luckily, she underwent a mastectomy and will undergo treatment to prevent further progression. And although the evidence connecting chemotherapy treatments, one specialist told her that the disease probably would return within a year. In accordance with widely accepted medical recommendations, she has made adjustments to her daily habits, including exercising several times a week and switching to a low-fat diet. Although it has been 14 months since the mastectomy, she has not suffered a recurrence. But Vossak, who lives with her progeny, four children, says that she takes nothing for granted. While she tries not to worry about the disease coming back, she acknowledges that life has taken on a different perspective, a sense that survival is something to be fought for. "I'd go across like a victory to me now," she says.

Like Vossak, a growing number of women

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treated for more than 30 years, tamoxifen has been given mainly to women who have already undergone surgery for breast cancer. Although the process is not completely understood, scientists say that estrogen, a female hormone, plays a vital part in stimulating the growth of certain kinds of breast cancer cells. Tamoxifen apparently helps by reducing the stimulative effects of estrogen. Researchers are trying to determine if the drug will be useful in fighting all women's cancers.

Now, tamoxifen is to be tested as a method of preventing breast cancer in healthy women who may be at higher risk of contracting the disease because of their family history. The \$68-million study by the U.S. National Cancer Institute will likely involve more than 18,000 women. At least 12 Canadian centres will participate, including Jewish General in Montreal, Women's College Hospital in Toronto, the Hamilton Regional Health Centre and the B.C. Cancer Centre in Vancouver. Said Michael Pollak, an associate professor of medicine at McGill University in Montreal: "Every once in a while I have checked out this drug to see, we have discovered good things about it. But it has never been used for prevention on a wide scale. This will be one of the largest clinical trials ever undertaken in the history of medicine."

Scientists also say that another drug, celecoxib, shows potential as a new kind of chemotherapy aimed at late-stage trials in the late 1990s. It has been an effective treatment of ovarian cancer, and researchers are optimistic



Pollak: Testing a drug for high-risk women

about its application for breast cancer, but its use has not been limited because it has been difficult to obtain. Trials began seriously in the back of the next Pacific year, but the U.S. National Cancer Institute revealed last week that researchers at Stanford University in Cal-

ifornia may have found a way to synthesize the drug. Still, a spokesman for the institute cautioned that trial will remain in short supply for at least a few more years.

All the same time, less well-developed but potentially powerful genetic research is clearing up on defective genes that may predispose some women to breast cancer. When researchers are able to pinpoint such a link, women who carry the defective genes may be identified and treated with preventive drugs, such as tamoxifen. Among the most promising advances so far is research by U.S. scientists who in 1994 identified the chromosome that most probably carries a gene linked to the development of breast cancer. But the task is a huge one, and scientists warn that breakthroughs with practical applications are still years away. Said Irwin Ausubel, a senior scientist at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto: "Finding a genetic link to breast cancer is akin to finding a needle in a haystack of the world—so far, our discoveries have only told us which haystack to look in."

With success still to come in many areas of research, patients like Jonine Vorelski will continue to place their hopes in things that they can do for themselves.

PATRICIA CRISTOLINI

Helping hands

A foundation raises awareness—and money

It was supposed to be a routine affair, a society party to raise money for a good cause. On that basis, former cheerleader Nancy Paul readily agreed when Stan Grafton, then co-owner of a Toronto fashion boutique, asked her in April, 1988, to host a fund-raising dinner with fashion designer Valerie Stone as guest of honor. An active volunteer, Paul frequently hosted charitable events at her suburban Willowdale home. But that time, she added one condition: A close friend had recently been diagnosed with breast cancer and Paul wanted to give the \$15,653 raised by the dinner directly to the fight against that disease. She said that she could not do that through the Canadian Cancer Society because it did not allow donors to designate how their contributions will be used. Instead, Paul's group wrote directly to breast-cancer researchers in Ontario and asked them to submit proposals for funding. They finally decided to donate the money to Toronto's Women's College Hospital for its breast screening centre. But the deluge of requests for the group's relatively paltry



Grafton: "It touches a lot of us"

sum suggested that breast-cancer research was in need of help. Said Paul: "Mostly, we could get walk away from it."

They did not. In November, 1988, Paul and nine other people formed a committee dedicated solely to raising funds and increasing awareness of breast cancer. That committee has since evolved into the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Most of the organization's 600 members are in Ontario, but executive director Betty Johnston said that regional branches will soon be formed to accommodate members from other provinces. Ontario chemist Carole Grafton, whose mother had breast cancer, estimates that half of their members are survivors of the disease. "One out of every 10 women will get breast cancer," Grafton said. "It touches a lot of us."

Since its first annual fund-raiser, the organization has raised more than \$500,000 for breast-cancer research, enabling researchers in five provinces to initiate 14 new studies. In addition to fund-raising, they have also given high priority to alerting women to the importance of early detection. Today, the foundation has initiated four national public education campaigns, including one in a partnership with Kellogg Canada Inc. in which the food conglomerate agreed to print information about breast cancer on packages of a new breakfast cereal called Nutrilite. Said Paul: "A woman's chances are so much better if breast cancer is caught early."

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A right royal spat

Fergie's split with Andy causes an uproar

Summer, it did not a summer be. Once again, Britain's tabloid press was hot on the heels of a juicy royal scandal. Once again, Buckingham Palace was forced to issue a terse statement clarifying the war. And once again, a royal marriage lay in ruins. What the 30-year-olds of Prince Andrew, the Duke of York, and Sarah, his rebellious duchess, fell apart in a blaze of publicity last week, it was just the latest disaster to strike the world's most scrutinized family. But it shows signs of becoming the most damaging—further tarnishing the image of the House of Windsor and underlining what even many staunch royalists regard as its incompetence at managing its periodic crises.

The damage came not just from the breakdown in the Yorks' marriage, which was confirmed as soon as March 19 when palace officials announced that lawyers were working out the terms of the couple's separation. After all, marital strife has become embarrassingly routine for Britain's royals. As long ago as 1974, the Queen's sister, Princess Margaret, divorced her husband, Lord Snowdon. Three years ago, Princess Anne and Mark Phillips formally separated. And even the Prince and Princess of Wales, Charles and Diana, have long been reported to maintain, at best, a distant working relationship. But the collapse of the marriage of the Queen's second son struck closest to the monarchy's heart, excluding a controversy over how it was being handled, and took place in an unusually bitter atmosphere. Within minutes of the announcement, palace officials were blaming the duchess for the breakdown and virtually driving her from their inner circle—expanding the rift behind the Royal Family's greatest facade. "No family in the world is more adept, more ruthless, at the art of self-preservation," commented Sarah Benson, royal writer for London's *Daily Express*.

There had been signs of trouble ever since Prince Andrew married the former Sarah Ferguson at Westminster Abbey on July 23, 1986. The tabloids first hailed "Fergie" as a lovely, unpredictable addition to the stuffy Royal Family—but soon condemned her as vulgar and

greedy. She ran into criticism for her weight, her questionable taste in clothes and her carefree vacations. More pain followed when it was discovered that she had kept most of the profits from two children's books that she wrote featuring a character called *Badger the Helicopter* after saying that the money would go to charity. She and Andrew, who are both 32, (no one farther criticism for the far-reaching design of their \$10-million mansion, Sunninghill Park in Berkshire, west of London. Critics blasted it as South Park—J. R. Ewing's fictional boudoir in the television series *Dallas*—and nicknamed it "Sunny Yorks.")

But it was another uncomfortable turn of events in the real-life soap opera that apparently led to the breakdown of their marriage. It began in May,

1988, when the duchess went on holiday with a group of friends at a resort in Mexico, while Prince Andrew, a lieutenant-commander in the Royal Navy, was away at sea. One of the other guests was Steven Wyatt, the 38-year-old son of a Houston oil tycoon. Lord Wyatt, who has sometimes been portrayed as the model for J. R. Ewing. Then, in January, a camera discovered 120 photographs in a London apartment recently rented by Steven Wyatt—including several showing him and the duchess in Mexico wearing bathing suits and with their arms around each other. The closest link to London's *Daily Mail*, which did not print the photos but reported the episode, along with an "intense expression" of one of the pictures.

Wyatt last week flatly denied any impropriety. "I have never had any romantic liaison with the duchess," he told reporters in New York City. "We are still friends, but it is a platonic friendship." Prince Andrew, according to newspaper reports, was sometimes agitated and harassed by the suggestions that his wife had been cheating on him. Still, according to reports last week, it was just one incident in a growing list of problems in relations between the couple, made even more difficult by the prince's extended absences on naval duty. In the end, it was the duchess who finally took steps to keep their marriage to an end.

Buckingham Palace could not play, so-



(Clockwise from top left) The Yorks on their wedding day, July 23, 1986; Sarah with Fergie (left) and Beatrice in Switzerland in January; Andrew and Sarah with Queen Elizabeth in April, 1988; about 1988; Sarah in September, 1988; the monarchy's image as a pillar of British family life took another heavy blow, and the fallout may affect future royal marriages

meaning that, it was lawyers asking for the duchess who initiated discussions about a formal separation. At stake would be custody of the couple's two daughters, three-year-old Beatrice and two-year-old Eugenie, a monetary settlement for the duchess, who, despite her husband's annual allowance of \$500,000, reportedly made up for it by about \$100,000 to support her luxurious lifestyle, and what title and status she will be allowed to keep after a separation or eventual divorce. A key clause in any agreement would almost certainly bind the duchess to remain silent about her life as a royal.

Buckingham Palace officials had clearly hoped to keep any announcement out of these matters were settled. And they were particularly upset that the Yorks' marital difficulties had become public in the middle of Britain's closely fought election campaign. The affair knocked politics off the front page of the nation's widely read tabloid papers for three days running—causing royal commentators that the House of Windsor's domestic difficulties were distracting attention from the campaign. At the same time, a senior palace official quickly made it clear that at least some courtiers blamed the duchess for the Royal Family's latest embarrassment and the way it became public.

Minutes after Thursday's first announcement, the Queen's press secretary, Charles Anson, told his radio reporter Paul Reynolds, who later reported that "the leaves are out for Fergie in the palace." Reynolds said that palace officials were claiming that the duchess had employed a public relations firm to put her side of the story in newspapers or magazines, and might herself have leaked details of a meeting she had with the Queen. "I have very rarely heard palace officials speak in such terms about someone," Reynolds added.

"They are talking about her suitability for royal life."

The next day, though, the attack appeared to backfire as the tabloids portrayed the duchess as a victim of a savage campaign of revenge by the palace. "Queen puts knife into Fergie," blazoned *The Sun's* front page. Within hours, Anson apologized to both the duchess and the Queen for his remarks and said that the monarch had not withdrawn them. But the damage had already been done, and the public was left with a lingering impression of a disgraced palace.

Even the most ardent royalists were shaken. The monarchy's image as a pillar of British family life took another heavy blow—and the messy aftermath of the announcement added to Buckingham Palace's reputation for incompetent crisis management. Harold Brookes-Baker, publisher of *Berke's Pictorial*, said gloomily, "There's no doubt up for the monarchy since the abolition of Edward VIII in 1936." Brookes-Baker suggested that the Royal Family should take greater care that its children's spouses are prepared for the strains of royal life. "Future royal marriages will be looked at very carefully," he said. "The further people marry from their own minds, the more difficult life is." And, he said, it might then be difficult to allow Prince Andrew to marry again in the future. By current tradition, a royal is prohibited from remarriage, although there are no formal laws against it. *Globe* columnist Brooks-Baker: "Perhaps something good will come out of this after all."

ANDREW PHILLIPS is in London

KILLER MOVIES

BASIC INSTINCT PUSHES THE BOUNDARIES OF THE HOLLYWOOD MAINSTREAM

The opening scene shows a man and woman naked in a bed, engaged in passionate sex. The woman is on top. Her blond hair has fallen forward, hiding her face. Suddenly, she latches the man's wrists to the head of the bed with a white silk. Her nails scar! They continue to make love and, as she reaches orgasm, she grabs an ice pick and plunges it repeatedly into his neck and chest. The camera shows the blood splatter across her body. But, despite appearances, the movie is neither cheap pornography nor B-grade horror. It is *Basic Instinct*, a \$50-million picture from TriStar Pictures, a major Hollywood studio. And in its graphic mix of sex and violence, it goes further than any mainstream American movie in history by portraying bisexual women as psychotic killers, meanwhile, it has become the target of protests by feminist and gay rights groups. As the movie opened on the weekend, demonstrators in cities across North America let their voices be heard with signs and leaflets revealing the movie's ending. And



other protesters are threatening to disrupt next week's Academy Awards presentations—the movie is not censored, but the odds remain it is the largest TV event of the year, and the stars of *Basic Instinct*, Sharon Stone and Michael Douglas, will both be promoting Oscars.

These Audieries is the latest, and most incendiary, of a new breed of adult thrillers, movies that tap a popular fascination with sexual violence and brutal violence. Psychopaths have served as fodder for thrillers for a long time, but their behavior has never been dramatized

in such grisly detail, and with such chilling sympathy as in the past year. At the Oscars, which will be awarded on March 30, three of the five best-actor nominees are honored for movies in which they play psychopathic killers. As *Remember the Titans* (Lewin), a charming Anthony Hopkins drew on two bygone films in *Shower of the Lame* (Robert De Niro's character Max Cady kills a clerk from a woman's face while raping her in *Cape Fear*) and in the role of a glorified gaoler, a delinquent Michael Berry kills a man to death in *Rage*).

Chilling: Hollywood seems to be going psycho. Jack Nicholson perhaps started the current trend three years ago by playing the Joker, that clown prince of psychopaths, in that movie—he stole the movie from the hero (Michael Keaton) and amassed a \$70-million cut of the profits and merchandising. Last year's top-grossing movie, *Tomb Raider*, got a good psychopath against a bad one, both taking machines devoid of emotion or conscience. But more significantly, serious film-makers including Martin Scorsese (*Cape Fear*) and Jonathan Demme (who is favored to win best director for *Silence of the Lambs*) have lent artistic dignity to the kind of sociopath once found only in B movies. As one industry insider said with a smile, "With Murry or Jonathan directing, you can eat human flesh."

In a less sensationalist fashion, Canadian television has cultivated a certain reputation for dramatizing true stories of family murder (page 52). They include *On the Edge of Love* and *1980*, about the murder of John Thelander by her ex-husband, former Saskatchewan cabinet minister Colin Clendenen, and last fall's *Conspiracy of Silence*, which



chronicles the 1973 sex slaying of Helen Betty Osborne in The Pas, Man., and *TV's To Catch a Killer*, a recent movie about Chicago serial killer John Wayne Gacy. The appeal of such films feeds a popular fascination with hard details and sinister psychology. But on television, at least in Canada, there is an attempt to be tasteful. In fact, the CBC recently shooed a project to film the story of serial killer Clifford Olson because it was too gruesome.

Anxiety: In the movies, however, the glamour of evil seems unlimited. And in researching the psychopaths, Hollywood has absorbed a broad spectrum of styles, ranging from conservative Christians to homosexual guardians of political correctness. Elliot Leyton, the Canadian author of a book about serial killers called *Heavenly Creatures—The Rise of the Modern Multiple Murderer* (1988, 104 Minutes) that has now thrives "Spirited a kind of bodacious celebration for the league can power and violence that these creatures create." Added Leyton, who teaches anthropology at Memorial University in St. John's, Nfld.: "I find it very disturbing that society is continually being bewitched by these cultural messages."

But film-makers argue that adult thrillers serve as a harmless form of escape, a safe distance with danger as an age of tightening anxiety. "It's a scary time in the world," Steve Buscemi star Steven Seid said Monday last week. "There are so many things that are frightening—environmentally, psychologically, economically, sexually. You can vent all your feelings through a movie like this. You can vicariously let off a lot of steam." Added Stone: "It's the New Age anxiety is terrorism."

And in the movies, women are finally going to dish out some of the terror. While the genre was pioneered by the Clarence Thomas hearings and the rape trials of Mike Tyson and William Kennedy Smith, the gender war has also been raging on the big screen: lesbian lovers are shooting to kill. Three of the five best-reviewed movies after *Basic Instinct* are women of brutal sexual violence—*Jade* Foster, the phony FBI agent in *Silence of the Lambs* and *Genius* Davis and Susan Sarandon, the feminist social warriors of *Thelma and Louise*. And in movies coming from last year's slandering but profitable slaying and the Chicago to the current hit *First Cow* Tomatoes, lesbian women work up the nerve to put down abusive husbands.

Baited: Taking dramatic license with reality, screenwriters are showing their best-offensive movies by proving that they can be just as villainous as men. Kathy Bates won a best-actress Oscar last year for *Murder*, in which she played a deranged recluse who kidnaps her favorite novelist James Galt and cracks his legs with a sledgehammer. *The Hand that Rocks the Cradle*, a thriller starring Rebecca De Mornay as a bisexual nurse, is the top-grossing picture of the year so far, having

Douglas (left), Stone in *Basic Instinct*; De Niro in *Cape Fear* (opposite) tugging a *Sociopaths* with *Instinct*

HOLLYWOOD HAS GONE PSYCHO WITH MOVIES BUILT ON GRISLY DETAIL

earned \$86 million. And *Basic Instinct*, in which Stone appears opposite Michael Douglas as a serial-murder suspect, seems destined to make her a major star (page 58). Although it bears a superficial resemblance to *Fatal Attraction* (1987), another Douglas vehicle about a lethal woman, played by Glenn Close, *Basic Instinct* is no cautionary tale. It promotes sexuality rather than discouraging it. And with

its prime suspect seduce him. The protests Douglas mentions overlook the fact that the movie is "larger than life, gothic and theatrical."

Indeed, according to the experts, Hollywood's portrayals of psychopaths *often* are grossly unrealistic. Although Leyton has spent much of his career researching serial killers, he says that he walked out of *Silence of the Lambs*

quarrel with its director, he no longer supports the movie.

The dispute originated during the early stages of production in San Francisco last year, when *Basic Instinct* became a target for militant gay activists who had obtained copies of the script. They showed, they picketed and they even bombed the set. The protesters had a reasonable lot of demands. They asked for Douglas's character to be changed to a lesbian, and suggested that the one played by Kathleen Turner. They also requested that the story feature the murder of women as well as men, so that lesbians and lesbian lovers are not seen as slash-baiters.

Kutner refused to go that far. But he did



Hopkins (right) in *Silence of the Lambs*: lending artistic dignity to B-movie-style horror

because "I couldn't stand the gratuitous violence. But what really offended me," he added, "was the way that the real hero of the film—a psychopathic, long-prisoned killer and rapist—was portrayed as witty, intelligent, humane and personable. It was a very unrealistic depiction of a serial killer. They are, almost to a man, dull, defective personalities with a grudge."

The director of *Basic Instinct*, however, insists that the characters are not meant to be representative. In an interview with *Menace's*, Dutch-born Paul Verhoeven explained that Stone's character, Catherine, possesses a highly unattractive combination of attributes: "She's brilliant, she's beautiful, she's rich, she's bisexual—and she ought to be a killer," he said. "I see her as a special edition of the devil."

The story suggested itself to Kutner as Hollywood acknowledged the *Erotic* (United Edge, The Music Dept. Last year, he told San Francisco's *Priso magazine*: "My wife says [the movie's script] comes out of all my sexual fantasies." Kutner received a fee of \$3.3 million, the highest to ever paid for a screenplay. But after a brief, and most unusual,

propose some astounding revisions to the script. Modifying a scene of rough sex, he suggested that, before ripping off a woman's underwear, Douglas's character should pause to explain what he is doing and ask her if she approves. He also requested a disclaimer screen at the beginning of the film saying, "The movie you are about to see is fiction." Rejecting such changes as ridiculous, Verhoeven stuck to the original script. "When he wanted to change it to please the gay community," said the director, "he was losing track of the dramatic issues I felt I had to protect the script from him, which was kind of weird." Kutner is probably the first Hollywood screenwriter to complain because his script ended up on the screen the way he wrote it.

Lesbians: With the opening of the movie at the weekend, the protests rapidly spread beyond San Francisco. In various cities, including Toronto, gay activists held these things, giving away the identity of the killer. In Los Angeles, Queer Nation activists formed a resistance called "The Killer's Name [Is] He." And *The San Francisco Bay Times* printed

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- 12) **John Linder**—Saturday & Sunday Morning Drive
- 13) **John Linder**—The World of News
- 14) **John Linder**—The World of News
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their sleep in a hall pass. "Hollywood completely portrays us as victims or psychotics," said cassette member Pat Stone. "We're saying, don't spend your money to see homo-phobes and intrigues."

Verhoeven seems puzzled by the outcry. "In North America, he is best known as the director of *Tomb Raider* (1996), a violent neo-noir action-adventure starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. But he built his reputation in Europe with such films as *The North Man* (1984), a homoerotic thriller that was well received by the gay community. Regarding to critics that he has portrayed homosexuals negatively in *Raise Hell*, he said, "I would argue that we are all probably born bisexual."

Director's sexual aggression: "Catherine is so dynamic and sophisticated with her sexuality that she can't be objectified," said Stone. "When she takes her clothes off, you don't go, 'Oooohh.' You go, 'Oh my God, she's doing what?'" She also argued that the scenes of violence, especially the rape scenes, should not be taken too literally. "The murder," she said, "is a sex act. It's not a violence act."

Genre: The adult thriller has come a long way since Alfred Hitchcock's caustic detection of the classic shower scene in *Psycho* (1960). Although that scene involved the repeated stabbing of a naked woman, it never played it over without a laugh-track of raucous or dead fish or Gore. Of course, Norman Bates, the murderer,

stared Buffalo Bill at him, showing himself a just act of his victim's sin, in depicted in a mainstream. And that also aroused later protests from gay rights advocates. Dennis dismissed the complaints about the character, saying, "I don't see him as the latest in a line of gay psychopaths."

Perhaps the only safe way to portray a psycho killer in a white, heterosexual American role. In fact, according to Leyton, statistics show that 85 per cent of serial killers are men. Almost half are heterosexuals who kill only females. 20 per cent are homosexuals who kill only males, and 20 per cent are straight and gay who kill both males and females. Clearly, Hollywood's recent tendency to make

psychopathic killing an equal-opportunity endeavor does not reflect reality. "A substantial number of women have assisted their boyfriends and husbands in their killing sprees, with varying degrees of enthusiasm," noted Leyton. "But as the instigators, they're not there. Let's face it. Violence is overwhelming the domain of men." And sexual killing is much more prevalent among men in the United States than elsewhere, added Leyton—it is linked to "a broad fabric of terrorism in the culture that glorifies violence."

Realism: It is hard to say just how much movies and television mirror the society that they reflect. That line between art and pornography, like that between sex and violence, has become increasingly blurred. In an era of strong concern about violence against women, colorful instances of female vengeance momentarily obscure the rules of sexual aggression. And in the age of safe sex, movies like *Raise Hell* (which offer madmen's ruin of voyeurism) The Hollywood psychopaths serve as convenient exorcism tools. And, in the new adult thriller, the distinction between heroes and villains begins to evaporate. Observed Douglas, describing his psychopaths' twisted dark tales: "My descriptions are torn between one side of society which is extremely violent and brutal and another side which is supposed to be educated and cultured and sophisticated."

The two sides merge most starkly in the pungent and controversial of the *Ones*, where the award for bad politics will emerge from movies that explore themes of cannibalism (*Glitter* of the *Lords*, gangsterism (*Boyz n the City*), and the *Prisoners of War*). They bring and the *Ones*, a curious but not, sexually violent and brutal and another side which is supposed to be educated and cultured and sophisticated."



Cave in Fatal Attraction: the advent of fatal women

could manage played by Anthony Perkins, turned out to be a violent cross-dresser who liked to assume the identity of his dead mother before jacking up the knife. But there was no more of protests by transvestites—or model managers.

Times change. In directing *Silence of the Lambs*, Jonathan Demme revealed a reverence for both Hitchcock and *Beowulf* long *Rage* movies, for when he made his first feature, a comic about a woman's prison called *Capt. Jack*. Unlike Verhoeven, who toys with the clichés of slasher melodrama, Demme clearly went out of his way to make *Silence of the Lambs* a teen thriller about a genuine subject without explicit exploitation. But one of the two psychopaths in the movie, a serial killer

misandrophobic in *Raise Hell* was designed to serve the plot. "Homosexuality is a part of life," he said. "You can make it a plot point without making it an issue all the time." He also emphasized that the movie's parent romance as the link bond between Catherine and Ray (Liam Neeson). In fact, to the consternation of his Hollywood producers, Verhoeven originally lobbied to add an explicit lesbian sex scene to the movie. But he said he eventually compromised himself it was dramatically justified. As it turned out, the straight sex scenes were not enough to jeopardize the movie's distribution. "I think it is progressively as I could," said the director. "I've always said to this sex scene the way they should be exposed."

Quinn: At first, the movie was distributed with an NO-17 rating (which denies admission to anyone under 17) in the United States. That classification would have spelled commercial disaster for a \$10-million movie many newspapers decline to advertise NO-17 pictures. After showing the ratings board in version 1, however I wouldn't get any stars," said Verhoeven, he used statistics that, anticipating classification problems, he had faced from more discreet angles to assemble a true graphic version. As a result, the movie is rated in the United States, which allows teenagers accompanied by adults in Canada, ratings vary from province to province, but in most places admission to *Raise Hell* is restricted to those over the age of 18.

But even when the movie was still at the script stage, it was provocative enough that Verhoeven's *Tomb Raider* himself. "All the *Al* actresses were approached," he said, mentioning Michelle Pfeiffer, Julia Roberts, Kim Basinger and Geena Davis. They declined. "In the end, nobody was left."

The role eventually fell to Stone, who had appeared in Verhoeven's *Tomb Raider*. She says that she had no qualms about playing Catherine. In fact, she maintains that she has incorporated a loose feminist logic into her

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Douglas: 'sex scenes are ballet, they're choreographed, like fight scenes'

STEAMING UP THE SCREEN

MICHAEL DOUGLAS EXPLAINS HIS CRAFT

Basic Instinct's male lead, Michael Douglas, has a history of playing men who tangle with violently minded women. In *Fatal Attraction*, Douglas portrays a family man who converts adultery with a psychotic played by Glenn Close. In *The Way of the Wives*, his character battles in the death with his estranged wife, played by Kathleen Turner. Now, Douglas faces off against another lethal woman in *Basic Instinct*. Last week, he spoke with *Maxim's* Senior Writer Emma D. Johnson about the pressure over the movie—and his terror at some scenes. Excerpts:

Maxim's: Are you enjoying the controversy over the film?

Douglas: Not really. But I guess it's good. It sharpens you up a little bit.

Maxim's: How do you respond to activists who say that the movie stereotypes homosexuals?

Douglas: I appreciate their savvy political activism and I think that they hooked me to a big Hollywood-type film to get a lot of publicity. I respect gay leaders' rights totally. I respect it as an equal-opportunity employer, but I think this really is a stretch. This is a couple of militant gay rights groups, a small minority, and doesn't

necessarily represent the larger population. *Maxim's:* Do you think that the protests are good for the film?

Douglas: If you're talking about promotion, publicity and awareness, I would imagine that it has probably been a big benefit. But we don't feel there is an issue, nor does almost anyone who sees the film. And so I truly hope, only for these [homosexual rights groups] [in] particular, that the talk of disrupting screenings or people walking in how to see the film doesn't come to be, because I'm sure I have homework I would feel if we were standing in line and someone told us the ending of the picture.

Maxim's: The mixture of sex and violence is going to offend a lot of people. How do you draw the line between titillation and art?

Douglas: Well, I don't know if it's middle-class pornography. I do know that, that detective novel, even detective-movie novels, have it; we've been a part of it our genre. But this movie is me trying to burn library books that carry bad words in certain parts of our country. If you don't want to see the picture, you don't have to buy a ticket. And I suspect people constantly trying to impose their own values in somebody else. Then it even hits television, where you

can put them on. You have to buy a ticket. And there has been enough said about this film that if you find it offensive, don't see it. It's impossible to be politically correct anymore, and I see it in our country—I don't know about Canada—becoming more and more diverse, rather than coming together. If I try to make a film by country, having gay-people groups and women's organizations and blacks and everybody else taking an every possible position that could be offensive, I think we end up with nothing.

Maxim's: What was it like doing these scenes? They are certainly among the hottest I've seen in a mainstream American movie.

Douglas: Well, thank you. I think a lot of credit has to go to [director] Paul Verhoeven. The only reason that I consented to step out as far as I did was based on Paul's earlier *Flashdance* films. There was a lot of respect and I knew that he had a sort of a clean-dance quality to his films, both in the style of imagery and the sexuality. I was looking to do a picture that had the kind of sexual energy. We're in such a congested time, we're all frustrated. I just thought it was important to kind of shake things up a bit.

Maxim's: Is it ever a tension to do sex scenes?

Douglas: No. I'm always surprised how people are so shocked that you can do sex scenes. I always think they're the one thing that brings an actor and the public closer together. Because most people have to pretend—we casually hear about failed orgasms. Beautiful, sex scenes are better, they're choreographed, just like fight scenes or a dance sequence, so you're always aware. With Jesse Triplestein [who plays the hero's old friend], there was a little difference in that she had never done a movie before in her life, and because it was a more aggressive sex scene—but also because I recognized that she wasn't sexually well. It was basically, "Oh, you're the kind, like a dancer, and just follow, bring such a good result."

She does a wonderful imitation of me during rehearsals, which is, "OK, up against the wall, less, less, less. Beat, up the blouse, less, less, less. The leg, come up, go down, less your legs."

Maxim's: That scene where you show her up against the wall is one of the more disturbing moments in the film. How do you respond to criticism that it exploits rape?

Douglas: We were concerned about that. We talked about it explicitly. But I think if you look at the film, it's very clear—and we made a big point about it—that there's a mutual attraction. I'm sure it's going to disturb some people. But there is aggressive sex in the world, and the truth of the matter is that people make love in all sorts of different ways and different styles.

Maxim's: Are you spending from personal experience?

Douglas: No. I'm not speaking from—I'm just trying to... Again, if you just look back to this whole question you have been dealing with politically correct—how you have every group's personal interest or angle?

A ROLE NO ONE WANTED

BASIC INSTINCT BELONGS TO SHARON STONE

Sharon Stone's face appears on the poster for *Basic Instinct*, but not her name. Michael Douglas is the movie's top-billed star, the one who earned \$12 million for playing a detective who sleeps with his murder suspect. But the movie belongs to Stone—not just because she acts her parts off in the sex scenes. Outstripping Douglas in every scene, she displays a power and magnetism that should make her a major star. After 10 years of trying to get noticed, the 39-year-old ex-model is quickly rising to the ranks of the A-list actresses who shied away from *Basic Instinct*—names including Michelle Pfeiffer, Geena Davis and Julia Roberts. "All they have done is create new competitors," said Douglas. "Sharon was wonderful. I'm very proud for her." Recalling the experience of working with Stone, he added, "She is very professional. And she has a great sense of humor, almost a joke sensibility."

On screen and in person, Stone displays an aggressive candor, a wit that quickly undercuts the stereotype of passive femininity. Last week, taking a break from a heavy schedule of interviews, Stone talked to *Maxim's* on an office overlooking the Hollywood hills. She was dressed for power in a loose Armani jacket, unbuttoned black Levi's that fit like stockings and cowboy boots in cream and oxblood. With green eyes, a strong jaw and a sensuous mouth (so her strong jaw for her), she projects a no-nonsense beauty—more sex subject than sex object.

Organs: Stone explained right away that she was testing tack. Perhaps it was the fit, she said, or just exhaustion. Maybe she was just hungry. "Basically," she continued, with cream cheese and smoking them out her mouth with no concern for decency, she modeled her first reaction to the *Basic Instinct* script: "That it would be a break of a lifetime and that they'd never give it to me."

Unlike some of the stars who turned down the role of Catherine, Stone says that the sex scenes didn't worry her. "My fear was that I couldn't play such a sophisticated character," she modeled "I was, taking off your clothes is what you do to sex a character. But taking off your clothes psychologically is a lot harder. Catherine is a very male kind of character," she added. "Playing

her, I started to think how hard it must be to be a guy, to get up every day and win, to have the best job, to be the strongest."

As for the sex scenes, she said, they were "boring, stupid and redundant to perform. And they really are like male fantasy sex. Look, she has three orgasms in four minutes. That's the way it happens for me at home. Come on,

was a story point in the scene before that. I wasn't wearing any. Paul said, 'You won't see anything. It will be shown in shadows.'"

In fact, the shot is extremely graphic. "I felt relaxed, humiliated—passed," Stone recalled. "I could not put on a question against the release of the picture, but I believe too much in it as a whole." Besides, except for that shot, she says she lives the scene. "I have been able to blow their sexuality for cameras and show it down your throat," Stone declared. "And you see Catherine sitting there going, 'How do you like it, baby? Does that make you uncomfortable?' I bet it does." Her eyes flashing eerily, suddenly Stone had become Catherine. Did she take the character home at night? "She sort of came along uninvited."



Stone: 'It's like I finally get to go to the press'

Right. Michael might get to \$17 million for shooting a movie if he can do that."

Stone says that she did not feel sexually exploited by director Paul Verhoeven, except in one instance. Early in the movie, there is a scene of Catherine making Nick (Douglas) and his police colleagues appear as they interrogate her. She is sitting on a stool wearing a micro-skirt—and no underwear. "Paul said I had to take my underwear off because they were reflecting white light," said Stone, "and it

was a story point in the scene before that. I wasn't wearing any. Paul said, 'You won't see anything. It will be shown in shadows.'"

Paul's Stone's own background is far removed from Catherine's demeanor. One of four children, she grew up in the small Pennsylvania town of Modville, where her father worked as a tool-and-die factory. She was a writing scholarship to a state college, studied her way through two local literary programs (she lived and fell into a lucrative modeling career).

Staying steady on the role, Stone was her first but not French moving in a windowpane in Woody Allen's *Stardust Memories* (1981). At 21, she moved to Los Angeles, only to spend nine years playing blond screenmoms in forgettable movies. But in 1990, she finally got some push into her career by appearing in a look-alike with cosmetic dentist Schmeissner's Verhoeven's *Total Recall*. Then, she passed away for a black-and-white appearance in *Playboy*—a career move designed to get attention.

Now, with *Basic Instinct*, her face is big news. She sits at her dressing table, "that's my career and my confidence." "With my career and my own," she said. "That's kind of a blessing—it's better that people say, 'Who is she?' at this point." Popping another cigarette into her mouth, Stone said that she was feeling better. "It's fitting and the bottom sheet of my Oscar dress is a lot bigger. No, she is not nominated, but she has been invited to appear as a presenter. And as the winner? 'Are you kidding?' she said. "It's like I finally get to go to the press."

BRIAN D. JOHNSON is in Los Angeles

SCALDING HOT

A THRILLER REVELS IN UNPUNISHED LUST

BASIC INSTINCT
Directed by Paul Verhoeven

The fever over the sexual politics of *Basic Instinct* seems apocryphal in light of the finished product. The movie's elements do include scenes, seduction—and a grainy murder council led by one of several blonde women. But homosexuality never becomes an issue. And the movie's lesbian refusal to pass moral judgment on its characters, along with its flamboyantly lurid style, is part of what makes it such exotic entertainment. In an age of creeping puritanism, *Basic Instinct* reveals its unpunished lust. It has a sexuality as provocative as any of its art. And even without the protest, the scalding sex scenes should make it one of the most talked-about films in a long time.

While *Instinct* also works, on the most basic level, as a high-voltage thriller, one that continually goesads audience expectations. Set in San Francisco, the story begins with a shocking scene of brutal murder. A naked woman, her face hidden by blood hair, sits upright her lower, two has up and then, stable face to death with an ice pick when he reaches orgasm. Gasp. Cut to the investigation. The victim turns out to be a retired rock star. The prime suspect is his girlfriend, Catherine (Sherry Stoner), a rich and beautiful woman. And her latest look, *Love Hurts*, happens to be about a woman who murders a retired rock star with an ice pick.

Think: When Nick (Michael Douglas), the detective in charge of the investigation, tells Catherine that her lover is dead, she shows neither surprise nor remorse. She explains, with cold simplicity, that her opponent is the victim was purely sexual. Nick realizes that her own's bluntness for the murder both implicates her and gives her an alibi—no killer would be that obvious. Perhaps the killing was a copycat crime inspired by the book. And several other suspects emerge: Rusty (Liam

Neeson), Catherine's jealous Indian lover, and Neil (Jonas Tripodone), a police psychiatrist trying to regulate her monster with Nick.

As Nick investigates Catherine, *Instinct* unveils the edge. She slowly admits him that she is writing her next book "about a detective who falls for the wrong woman." Behind his

bit who incarnates men's wildest dreams and worst nightmares: she kills sex without commitment, she kills to control it, and homicide may be her ultimate thrill.

Catherine is an absurd invention, but Stone makes her seem real and fascinating. Screenwriter Joe Eszterhas has also coaxed the character in a male fantasy, but Stone represents her, revealing glimmers of vulnerability beneath the conqueror exterior. And although the script does not explain the motives behind the murders, Stone never seems to lack motivation.

Last: Douglas, meanwhile, is on a search for his co-star. But he adds yet another twisted protagonist to his repertoire of corruptible men. The end of his lower lip compression hat, gait and hair into a single expression of sin. The secondary characters are not so well drawn. As Nick's sub of the earth partner, Sherry Stone seems like a weak response to a casting call for a John Goodman Unfettered type. Rusty remains a cipher. And Neil's double role as police psychiatrist and love slave breeds disbelief. But the movie's gleeful exploitability is also its strength—the notion of a detective being seduced by a glamorous serial-killer suspect.

With its sexuality, sex and blood-drenched violence, *Basic Instinct* seems an unlikely form of light entertainment. But a playful sense of humor permeates through both the writing and the direction. The dialogue is a clever covert of social riparian. And Paul Verhoeven directs with the same sadistic flair that Catherine embodies on screen.

The only truly obscene touch about *Basic Instinct* is its \$50-million cost. Offering a safe escape into dangerous sex, it is a movie in which everything—and nothing—is given form. Like it is so hard to believe in having it, because it never pretends to be anything other than sensational entertainment, diabolically designed to arouse the basest instincts.

BRIAN D. JOHNSON



Douglas (center) in *To Catch a Killer*: 'the bottomless well of evil capability'

SMALL-SCREEN MONSTERS

REVELLING IN PRIME-TIME TERROR

The story had all the ingredients of a murder TV subplot: a gladiator, a real-life psychopath on a rampage of kidnapping, torture and murder. And when CBC producer Bernard Zakheim approached officials at the public network in early 1996 with a proposal to chronicle the crimes of Clifford Chase, they agreed. James Earl Ray, creative head of movies and movies at the network, gave Zakheim the go-ahead to commission a script and, nine months later, he delivered a first draft by Toronto writer John Hunter. But after reviewing Hunter's work, Ray, along with CBC vice-president of arts and entertainment (Lisa Foner), told Zakheim that the network was no longer interested. Explaining that decision in a recent interview with *Maxim's* Ray said: "It was a fine script. But it was just too strong a story, too inherently disturbing," he added. "Sometimes, you just have to draw the line between what many viewers might find too in and what

is beyond the boundaries of prime time." Ray's concerns illustrate the difficult questions confronting the Canadian television industry as it comes to terms with its own success in dramatizing some of the most gruesome crimes in modern history. Among the most popular television series in recent years have been two Zakheim shows produced for the CBC: *Love and Hate*, about the brutal murder of John Thibault and the trial of her ex-husband, former Saskatchewan cabinet minister Colin Thatcher, set the pace when it appeared in December, 1989. Attracting more viewers than any other drama on Canadian TV that season, the show-overs because the first all-Canadian dramatic production to be sold to a U.S. network. It reached first in the ratings week it appeared on NBC in June, 1990.

Then, last fall, Zakheim delivered *Cognique* of *Sherry*, the story of the woman 1971 slaying of native widow Betty Osborne in The Pas, Man. Scheduled to appear last year

on Cbs in the United States, the two-part special, which aired in December, ranked second in the ratings among entertainment specials on Canadian TV this season. Indeed, it did not find place only when it was another murder, but-based tale. To Catch a Killer, in January. Produced by Toronto's Richard Lowry, it stars Brian Douglas as American serial killer John Wayne Gacy, who tortured and killed 33 young men before burying their bodies in the basement of his suburban Chicago home. The show is scheduled to air on syndicated television in the United States this spring.

An network officials work to balance the drive for large audience numbers with producing responsible television. Experts on violence, as well as TV producers and writers, are asking why such shows are as successful—and tabulating the price of that success. Some question whether there can be anything edifying about rehashing lurid stories, whether such shows glorify criminals and psychopaths while belittling the plight of victims—and whether such programs might encourage some viewers to act out their own dark impulses. Said Elliot Leyton, a professor of anthropology at Memorial University in St. John's, Nfld., and the author of *Reading Horrors—The Role of the Modern Multiple Murderer*: "There are a lot of questions to be answered, and it's getting worse that we answer them."

And: One thing that distinguishes the majority of such TV movies from their cinema partners on the big screen is their basis in real events. Television producers have long depended on attracting viewers with notorious true stories in order to compensate for their inability to offer the big-name actors and directors common in big-screen thrillers. With the built-in recognition, they say, comes an added level of fear. Said Zakheim: "People can watch a film like *Sherry* of the *Love and Hate* and say, 'That's an awful story, but it can't really happen.' A real part of the horror of something like *Cognique* of *Sherry* is that it really did happen." Even if viewers don't remember the actual event, simply knowing that a movie is based on fact can provide an enhancement to fear. "It's like driving by the scene of an accident," said Lowry. "You don't want to see it, and you're better off if you do see it like it that you can't see it. It happened, so you tell yourself you had better take a peek."

Leyton contends that all movies have a tradition of telling stories about characters who transgress every social norm. "It can be a very healthy thing," he said. "It's the way that older generations pass on to the younger ones what constitutes goodness and what is gna-

early '90s." Hunter, whose writing credits include the 1980 Canadian classic *The Grey Fox*, shed an ingenuitous sobriety, said that the appearance of multiple murders in recent decades has "given our society its own unique form of neuroses and vices." They are our new monsters, in human form. "Added Hunter: "The idea that there are people out there who would kill as for their own perverse reasons adds a whole new dimension to our fears."

Brawl: Since the success of *Love and Hate*, Zerkow has received dozens of story proposals from writers who were eager to retell true-crime stories in mini-series form. But the producer says that he has turned down all of them because they lacked a social message that was worth telling. "*Love and Hate* was ultimately a story about the abuse of power, and *Conspiracy of Silence* was a tale of racism," he said.

"It's not enough just to have a brutal murder and a brutal murderer."

Some observers argue that even movies that deliver socially redemptive messages ultimately glorify the desecrated individuals as which they flow. Saul Givens, president of the Toronto chapter of Victims of Violence, a national organization that lobbies for the rights of crime victims and their survivors, "It is always the criminal that these movies focus on—what makes them tick, what they're all about—rather than the person abused or killed. They're just human who no one really wants to think about." Carver, whose son Mark Mason, 30, was robbed and murdered by a man on parole in Florida in 1992, maintained such a focus "makes sick people into heroes."

It is a concern that Hunter, for one, takes to heart. In 1974, a convict on a day pass kidnapped the writer's parents, Earl and Viola Hunter, from their home in Oregon. Five weeks later, they were found shot to death in a willow grove at Washington state. "These shows already stir up painful memories," said Hunter. "But that is not a reason not to do them." In the case of his *Olson* script, Hunter acknowledged that although it reflected his own fascination with "the battened-down wall of evil capability" in the killer's mind, it also contained lessons about how the justice system is often powerless to stop such criminals. As with the script explained why the RCMP felt justified in paying *Olson* \$150,000 for evidence leading to the location of his victims' bodies.

Many people in the entertainment industry defend their right to take whatever tack delivers satisfying drama. Saul Van Hall, vice-president of business affairs at Toronto's Adrenaline

Films Ltd., which is in the early stages of producing a mini-series about the 1984 sex slaying of nine-year-old Christine Jessup in Queensville, Ont., north of Toronto. "If you're going to tell the victim's story, there's really not much to tell, whereas the background of the kidnapper—his mind, his childhood, what made him commit the crime—that's dramatic."

Dastardly: Many experts on violence express concern that true-crime shows may inspire some viewers to commit similar acts. Although Leyton noted that there have been no suicides in studios to that effect, he said that it's dangerous because right now, once people who have what he calls "a fuzzy sense of identity, people uncertain about what is appropriate behavior, about how to respond to trauma." Such individuals, said the author, "might be inclined to look to television for instructions on how to proceed." According to Judith Van Dues, a professor of psychology at St. Jerome's College at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, the very last that anyone has been made about a disturbed individual could encourage certain viewers to follow suit. Said Van Dues: "Someone desperately needy for attention might see committing a similar crime as a sufficient way to get an 'I'."

Others say that such shows could produce just the opposite effect. "We live in a society

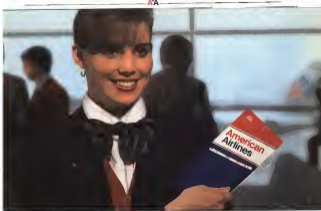
that both glorifies violence and tells us that we must bottle it up," said Ernest Fabbie, a professor of criminology at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C. "Seeing depictions of characters who let their violent side loose may lead to a catharsis, an outlet for the aggression that people are taught to lock up inside."

For their part, those in the business of achieving ever higher ratings say that the remote possibility of copycat criminals will not keep them from producing high-quality, fact-based TV. "If you worried about that," said the CBC's Burt, "you would lose yourself from ever making anything interesting." Instead, despite Burt's decision not to proceed with the *Olson* project, his department is involved in a mini-series, set to air next season, based on stories of the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of young boys at Newfoundland's Mount Chabel orphanage during the 1970s. And he says that Hamilton's Seifer Street Films is preparing a script for the CBC about Jane Stoddard, the battered wife from Bangor, Pa., N.S., who was acquitted of murdering her husband, and who committed suicide last month. In the new focus, at least, it seems likely that real-life disasters will continue to stalk prime time.

Victor Dwyer



Kate Nelligan (left) with *Love and Hate* cost Zerkow (center) and a social message



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PEOPLE

ROCKING THE NONSENSICAL BOAT

Rob Reiner created a profitable monster with his 1984 cult classic, *This Is Spinal Tap*. The film featured heavy-metal spoof band Spinal Tap, so notorious for its antics (the band keeps a strategically placed sawdust in its trousers) as for its savagely satirical first album, *Sneak the Glove*. While the twisted tale has just released *Break Like the Wind*, guitarist David St. Hubbins (Michael McKean) told *MEZMO* that he is also keeping busy working with young bands. He added: "When the lyrics are completely unintelligible, we'll really be on to something."

A creative leap

A rising Khuman has taken a leap. Best known for her dramatic roles in the black films of Canadian director Allen F. Foyles, the 23-year-old actress is currently taking a comical turn in the Toronto Theatre production of *Booster* (Aurora Award). The *Booster* has Khuman told *MEZMO* that she finds her character, a 79-year-old Indian grandmother, especially challenging. Said Khuman: "I was worried at first about the stereotype, but the part is so much so fullheartedly that it works." Despite her accented English and her mother's looks, Khuman says that she would like to portray "a real woman" in her next stage role. Now on a leave of absence from her job as a film and video officer with the Ontario Arts Council, she plans to return by August. Before then, however, she will spend April shooting a commercial for French television before heading to Arizona to work on Foyles' next feature. Declared Khuman: "My acting is reaching a point where I may soon have to choose."



Khuman: a "half-hearted" role

PRESSING ENGAGEMENT

Senator Edward Kennedy is abandoning his notorious "switcher" life. Kennedy, 60, has announced his engagement to Victoria Reggie, 38, a Washington lawyer and divorced mother of two. His courtship came under close public scrutiny last year during the controversial pro-trial-and-sentencing-of his nephew William Kennedy Smith. Kennedy was divorced from his wife, Jean, in 1982, after 22 years of marriage and three children. But according to Roman Catholic Cardinal Bernard Law, Kennedy remains married in the eyes of the church. Critics suggest that the senator, to take place later this year, could improve his political image before his 1994 re-election campaign gets under way. But Reggie is no stranger to scandal herself: her father, a retired judge and veteran Kennedy booster, currently faces federal fraud charges in Louisiana. Said Edward Reggie: "She grew up in a house where politics is a dirty war. We can handle herself."

Reggie: a "steady diet" of politics at home



Fanning: the next teen heartbreak?

A STAR IN WAITING

Stephen Fanning is clearly a force to be reckoned with. The 23-year-old Vancouver native recently won the lead role in *Myra Breckinridge*, a spinoff of the popular TV series *Beauty & the Beast*, 1992, which stars fellow Vancouverite Jason Priestley, age 23. And Fanning's handlers are already promoting him as a teen heartbreak. Indeed, although the show will not air until June, he says that "people want me to do real appearances." But the promise of fame has apparently left him unaffected. He remains in winning the part: "Great. I can afford to do real now."

Irish legends meet local talent

When Saskatchewan-born guitarist Colin James performed in a sold-out concert by The Chieftains on St. Patrick's Day, he joined an exclusive club. The starman group is credited with reviving interest in Irish folk music, and has collaborated with such artists as Van Morrison and Elvis Costello. Said Chieftain Paddy Moloney: "Wherever we are, we try to meet up with some local talent. And Colin James is a very talented musician."



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The gadfly of Quebec

Mordecai Richler sets off another furor

OH CANADA OH QUEBEC!
RIGHTFUL FOR A DIVIDED COUNTRY
By Mordecai Richler
(Penguin, 277 pages, \$14.95)

Many through Oh Canada! Oh Quebec! *Requiem for a Divided Country*, Mordecai Richler discusses the "bits of sentiment" that prompted him to write his latest book. As Canada "litters in the verge of fracturing," writes Richler, he feels himself looking at anglophones and francophones and wondering why they cannot "begin to celebrate what binds them together." The answer, says Richler, is what "I would undoubtedly place as the number 1 objective, the true common denominator—bad taste." The remark is vintage Richler: the personal observation who seemingly has never met a social, ethnic or religious group whose kulins he could not skewer with wit and often painful accuracy. This quality has earned him much critical acclaim internationally in close to 40 years as an author and essayist—and much resentment from his unwelcome subjects. Last week, as Richler contemplated the explosive anti-racism in Quebec in his newest book, he told *Maclean's*: "There is nothing like pointing at children because to make people even more racist."

After excerpts from the book appeared last week in several newspapers, it drew an apocalyptic reaction in forums ranging from the editorial pages of Quebec's major newspapers to the House of Commons. The objection, in each case that Richler's view of Quebec and its nationalist movement is overly harsh and unfair—particularly his assertion that the province's history reflects a Jewish vision of anti-Semitism. (See *Q* below for Perryette Youssef's denunciation that the book he based on the grounds that it accused historic anti-Quebecers, although her party's leader, Lucien Bouchard, had said that he disagreed with the demand. And columnist Pierre Tanguay called Richler "an antisemite" in the *Montreal daily La Presse*. But Richler

is unwilling to confront the anti-Semitic existence of anti-Semitism in this country.

In structure the book is little more than a series of loosely strung anecdotes dealing with recent political history and language bickering in Quebec. Often, Richler mocks the absurdity of Quebec's discourse, even forbidding the use of language other than French on commercial signs. Oh Canada! Oh Quebec! with a description of a middle-aged francophone standing outside Richler's favorite Montreal pub, proposing an outraged complaint to the Quebec government over the existence of a sign in English reading, "Today's special: Philadelphia's lunch."

The man, says Richler, was one of a group of "self-appointed vigilantes" who "doctored" the downtown streets for English language or bilingual commercial signs that are an affront to Montreal's image. *Anglophone (Jargonist) face!*—"Rip! Vornort! You're not welcome here," says "Happy Hour 5 to 7."

At other points, Richler creates short but devastating images of Quebec's provincial and federal politicians. Premier Robert Bourassa he calls "a loquacious toad," and his cabinet members, "a group of men in suits, all of whom it is self-evident, are all of them, in some way, Jewish."

For Minister Brian Mulroney appeared upon first meeting as someone who "smiled too eagerly and was a shameless flatterer" and who, "wearing a suit that looked like expensive, by the way, and a pair of shoes, both in English and French, attacked me as the controversial South Boston politician." And although Richler praises a smoking advertisement for former premier René Lévesque (who died in 1987), and calls him "charismatic and violent," he adds that he "did not seem to have any respect for history."

The most controversial theme of the book, however, and one about which Richler clearly feels most strongly, is the anti-Semitism that he claims many of Quebec's leading political and intellectual leaders exhibited in the past. In earlier works, most notably in his 1984 series of essays, *Never Say Never*, Richler has focused on anti-



Richler: object of anti-Semitism among many leading Quebecers of the past

Semite attitudes in English Canada, citing as culprits among others, former prime minister William Lyon Mackenzie King. Richler writes that King, "long his staunch to keep around also [died] out of the country during World War II, failed to turn the trick." And in an essay in *New Statesman* in 1982, Richler declares that former governor general Lord Tweedsmuir "is 'oblivious to the fact, because under the name of John [Richler] he wrote libelous books with anti-Semitic overtones."

Suddenly, he has seemed again that issue in essays and novels set outside the country. But Richler, who grew up in the mean streets of downtown Montreal in the early 1930s and 1940s, says that anti-Semitism was higher in Quebec than in the rest of the country, and he among numerous witnesses.

Among them, he quotes Abélard Lévesque, a leading figure in Quebec nationalism in the 1930s, as saying that Jews "can be found behind all misdeeds, all shady enterprises, all the pornography operations.... This same concern for money makes [Jews] put aside all moral scruples." And Richler cites a series of "blatantly anti-Semitic remarks made in the pages of *Le Devoir* in the 1930s by the newspaper's editors. Those remarks included advice to readers to avoid Jewish shopkeepers who have "cheating and corruption in their blood-stains," and the rhetorical question, "Why change one's name if one can't change one's race?" As well, Richler says, the newspaper at various times reflected policies that included denying Canadian citizenship to Jewish immigrants, denying Jews the right to vote, issuing them a special passport—and even deporting them. Those positions led Richler to make the

provocative declaration that during the 1930s "the most obvious of *Le Devoir* were clearly reminiscent of *Der Stürmer*," a German Nazi newspaper of the same period that any other newspaper I can think of."

Disparaging much of the early comment on Richler's book has centered more on his taking of Quebec nationalists of that time with whom he has no quarrel. The documentation he provides that the sentiment existed in a long and bitter editorial in *Le Grand Nord*, Bourassa's nationalist newspaper, the expression of the newspaper in *Der Stürmer* by calling it "detestable" and failed to rule out legal action. But Bourassa's editorial did not discuss the examples that Richler gave to substantiate his allegations. Instead, she responded with an unfavorable comparison of her view by suggesting that a recent newspaper featuring Richler and journalist Barbara Frum "inspired by the CBC resembled a 'Sholem' scene," referring "to a Jewish socialist" and "a very disaffected neighbor he complains that the neighbors are ingrates."

Richler's assertion that anti-Semitism was worse in Quebec than in the rest of the country before the Second World War is, in fact, debatable, largely because dislike and suspicion of Jews was widespread in Canada then among both anglophones and francophones. Another well-known, entitled *Slaves of Right*, *Nazis and Fascist Politics in Canada 1930-1940*, by political scientist Martin Roth, offers ample evidence of discrimination against both Canadian-born Jews and immigrants fleeing oppression in Europe.

Many of Richler's criticisms of life in Quebec, including those dealing with anti-Sem-

ites, are severely more damaging than those he has leveled at other parts of Canada. And Richler's insistence for some of the things that make Quebec distinctly different from the rest of the country is well evident, although less so than in the great Quebec City, he writes, is a "Jewish exception to the rule" that Canada is usually "Jewish-free for its size rather than the places we have built." And the province of Quebec, Richler insists, is still the only place in Canada that he could possibly love in. Said Richler last week: "There's something about this country as an interesting, as alive."

And, Richler added, he would be prepared to continue living in an independent Quebec: "at least long enough to make what life would be like for those of us who are less than pure." It was unclear to Richler as he hopes he does not fail to contradict

But what that happens, the Montreal carnage seems certain to remain Quebec's best-known—and least favorite—figure on the international literary scene.

ANTHONY WILSON SMITH

Maclean's

BEST-SELLER LIST

FICTION

- 1 *Knives of Deceit*, Maclean (1)
- 2 *The 39 Claves*, Maclean (1)
- 3 *The Road to Sharnah*, Colville (3)
- 4 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 5 *The Pelican Book*, Maclean (1)
- 6 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 7 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 8 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 9 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 10 *Knives*, Maclean (1)

NONFICTION

- 1 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 2 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 3 *The New Canadian*, Maclean (1)
- 4 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 5 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 6 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 7 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 8 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 9 *Knives*, Maclean (1)
- 10 *Knives*, Maclean (1)

(1) Previous list only

Compiled by Bruce Robinson

St. Jean Baptiste Day parade charges of persecution





An ambassador of laughter

BY STERNA MacLEOD

It is without apology that the name of Charlie McKenney is being printed on this page for the second time. What, the reader, the Prime Minister has made it more than once. Come to think of it, so has the Queen.

And, laugh as you might, the aforementioned Charlie yet might have a greater influence in shaping the world than either of these. Lord knows, he's going to try.

Does his name ring a bell? You might remember him as leader of the Rhinoceros party, the one that entered the 1984 election campaign with promises of a Connected Future Program and new 183,000 votes. Charlie (died) Poo to Miquette (died) McKenney was a slightly big game in those heady days "before those ridiculous senators bought laughs and whistles and pretended they were us."

Well, a pitifully saddened Charlie is back on the scene, his eyes some of laser and bubbling merrily below the surface, but now sincerely dedicated to bringing the world—and Canada—people together "through the greatest weapon of our arsenal." That, of course, is laughter. His specialty.

And suppose Charlie's ability need only be from a harmless variety of constitutional amendments transcribed in Ottawa to either dinner standing at Montreal where, thanks to our ties, airports and immigration are happily used in laughing at themselves. You decide what's more useful, whether dry as a diamond, or a roasting reminder that laughter is indeed the shortest distance between people.

"Where I came from there's a man for people who put me into their quarters." No, we're not talking mere entertainment here. When it comes to the role of laughter, whether Charlie emerges—the one who knows all about corporations losing hiccups, giggles in boardrooms and, probably, productivity. Or about the positive effect of laughter on hospital patients. Or on education. **18-08-84**

Allen Richardson is in Ottawa.

'The only way to get a decent high school education in Canada these days is to go to university'

"(I) saw Victor Bozov I hand clapped."

Dr. Laurence Peter, author of *The Peter Principle*, always contended that only two things are relevant to education: "Education and laughter." Charlie is, of course, a believer.

Perhaps the most influential individual in Charlie's new life is Dr. James H. Bozov—"who is, doubt, number"—who gives up a 30-year career with the U.S. state department to put humor to work. "We may never have scientific proof of his achievements, but it was Dr. Bozov who, in the spring of 1983, organized the first U.S.-Canada humor exchange, with five funny people from each country laughing with, and about, each other. They were known as the Gold Key would soon then."

Contentedly or otherwise, it did. "Talk one always follow laughter, but laughter can't always follow talk."

Charlie looks serious. "For know how the CIA got all its intel information on the aphorisms in Eastern Europe? From a seminal underground pamphlet in Budapest, that's how laughter beat the best brains of the CIA."

"They call me Charlie, but let me be frank about that."

Another little-known fact. The widest-read

magazine in world history was *Kosovak*, a national publication first introduced by Vladimir Lenin. With a circulation of five million, each copy was read by an astonishing 20 people. He knew something about communicating, that old Lenin.

Anyway, the more Charlie dived into the subject, the more enthusiastic—or obsessive—he became. So in 1996, with support from former ambassador Stephen Lewis, the past president of the American Medical Association and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, among others, he took a proposal to the United Nations. And it was the birth of WOTC—the World Assembly of Techno and Creative Humourists, mandated by UNESCO to "explore and develop applications of constructive humor in medicine, education, socioeconomic development and international relations."

"Three weeks later, Goddess Hestia invited Rascal to, loosely, bring us everything." As part of Canada's 125th birthday party, McKenney had a plan to have Canada's 1,177 elected and unelected legislators provide their favorite jokes and humorous anecdotes for a book—"To provide Canada's citizens with enjoyable humor stories to deflect the ubiquitous anxiety from the constitutional debate." All proceeds would go to UNESCO.

The organizers of Canada 125 perhaps didn't see the humor of his request for support was rejected.

"It's sometimes across the country's poor wherever we're served."

So, to tell with financing Charlie struck out on his own, and with his "change of address" Dominique Langre, co-owned schools in French-speaking countries of the United Nations. From places like Belgium, Africa, Zaire and Guatemala, the children's jokes came in. Now they are going into booklet form, to be distributed to young hospital patients. If there's enough for a book, parents will go to the rescue.

"Kids are like big people. Those who laugh together, stay together."

In September, if things turn out as planned, there will be a version from English-language countries, educating people about what makes people laugh around the world.

The only way to get a decent high school education in Canada these days is to go to university."

The way the 45-year-old Charlie sees it, promoters of variety every other discipline—religion, politics, whatever—have had their fun at trying to bring people together. Now it's his turn. "I believe in the unity of laughter," says the cartoonist author named social worker from Amsterdam, Ont., who came to Montreal in 1978 as a displaced anthropologist "and never felt awkward. I love this province and this country."

"But no matter where you turn, there are prophets of doom and gloom, all furthering their careers off the feet of the laid. We want to laugh at them."

"We use it to our children."

Sharon MacLeod is Ottawa columnist for Thomson News Service.

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